

US seizes first Iraq-bound ship since embargo

Bus convoy of 150 women reaches Iraq

BY MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE convoy of British women and children that left Kuwait before dawn yesterday was last night driving through the deserts of Iraq towards Baghdad, while more Westerners flew from the Iraqi capital to Amman.

As the convoy crossed the border into Iraq, a Virgin Atlantic Boeing 747 arrived in Amman carrying almost 30 tons of food and medical supplies for the thousands of refugees stranded at the Iraq-Jordanian border. About 150 Britons are expected to fly back to Gatwick on the aircraft today.

American Marines meanwhile impounded an Iraqi freighter for the first time, and Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, endorsed the use of force to "detain" President Saddam Hussein.

The USS Goldsborough challenged the freighter *Zambia*, carrying tea from Sri Lanka, as it approached the Gulf. It refused to stop and was boarded by Marines before being escorted to Oman.

Mr Kinnock told the TUC yesterday that President Saddam's invasion of Kuwait was sudden and brutal. "Unrelenting pressure must be sustained under the terms of the UN resolutions, and if force is necessary to implement that policy, that, too, should have the authority of the UN."

The 150 women and 150 children who left Kuwait undertook their difficult and dangerous journey without

any diplomatic presence and without a military escort. William Waldegrave, the Foreign Office minister, said that some of the women were understood to be experienced expatriates who had been helping throughout the crisis.

The Iraqi military authorities in Kuwait made no attempt to interfere with their departure, but sources in

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Whitehall said it should be assumed that when they reached Baghdad they would be "under Iraqi supervision".

The Britons, travelling in seven hired coaches and two private vehicles, driven by Kuwaitis, were expected to take anything from 12 to 26 hours to make the journey of more than 500 miles in temperatures of up to 115F. They were on a metal road passing through desert and marshland, but it was believed to have been churned up in recent weeks by military vehicles and the convoy was likely to face numerous checkpoints and breakdowns.

Another coach, carrying 11 Britons, 12 Australians, 11 Irishwomen and a Canadian, including 12 children, set off from Kuwait yesterday shortly after the bus convoy.

British diplomats were

expected to meet the convoy on the outskirts of Baghdad, since they have been restricted from venturing any further than that. The embassy had booked rooms in three Baghdad hotels but it was possible that they would be taken to the Marisol Melia hotel, where a number of Britons have been detained.

The Iraqi authorities have

said that women and children are free to leave, and the British ambassador, Harold Walker, hopes to get them away fairly quickly. Arrangements were being made to place the group on flights out of Baghdad either directly to London or to Jordan as soon as possible.

The result is that Oxford may play the entire term, including the match against Cambridge in December, without five leading Blues, four of whom are internationals. Page 42

Fire appeal

An appeal to finance the rebuilding of the centre of Totnes, Devon, was launched by the mayor yesterday after a fire destroyed the East Gate and surrounding Elizabethan buildings. Page 3

Oxford's rugby scrum

OXFORD University Rugby Club has become engaged in an internal dispute which has remarkable similarities to the 1987 Boat Race mutiny. Once again the controversy concerns the question of who should run the club.

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A group of 40 British women and children already in Baghdad and equipped with exit visas were expected to be

Mandela denounces army after new mob rampage

From GAVIN BELL, JOHANNESBURG

TROOPS opened fire indiscriminately after rampaging mobs hacked and burned dozens of people to death in a resurgence of black violence in townships around Johannesburg yesterday.

President de Klerk appealed for peace and Nelson Mandela expressed outrage during separate visits to the strife-torn areas, and the conflict which claimed more than 500 lives last month appeared to be spiralling out of control.

Renewed fighting between Zulu supporters of Inkatha and Xhosa-speaking residents who broadly support the African National Congress flared

Saudis put their faith in desert landscape

From NICHOLAS BEESTON
 IN HAFR AL-BATN

MAJOR Yacoub Zamel surveyed the landscape of sand and gravel that stretches beyond the horizon and declared confidently yesterday that this would be Saddam Hussein's graveyard.

He was not boasting about the fighting ability of the 30,000 Saudi and Arab troops who make up the first line of defence against Iraq, but instead he was putting his faith in one of the most hostile environments in the world. "Just as Hitler and Napoleon were defeated by the Russian winter, so Saddam's army will perish here," the Saudi helicopter pilot said.

Normally the tranquillity of the desert is only broken by the odd flock of goats, a solitary camel, or a bedouin in pick-up truck, instinctively picking their way through the maze of desert tracks for the one that leads to water. Today the horizon is dotted with the hazy silhouettes of Saudi tank positions, the tents of Egyptian Rangers, and a column of Omani infantry making its way in Land-Rovers to a new camp.

At the headquarters of a Saudi mechanised infantry brigade nobody seems in much of a hurry to fight a war and the prospect of imminent attack by a force five times larger located only 50 miles away seems remote. "No-one fights a war in this heat," Colonel Malik Suleiman, in charge of logistics for the Saudi forces, said. His main concern is getting water to the men on the front line.

"I met Saddam when he came to visit us here two months ago to thank us for our support during the Gulf war," he recalled. "I did not trust him then and I certainly don't now. But if he wants to attack we will wait for the autumn, by which time we will be more ready."

His fellow officers certainly

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late on Monday night. At least ten people were killed during the night in three townships, and by midday yesterday the toll was nearing 40. The worst clashes were reported in Sebokeng, west of Johannesburg, where witnesses said Inkatha warriors stabbed and bludgeoned about 20 people to death in a workers' hostel, and troops later opened fire on a crowd which had gathered around the building.

A photographer, said he

went towards the hostel com-

pound at about 4 am. "As I

came in, the army was also

entering the area. They took

up positions and cocked their

guns. I thought maybe they

wanted to scare the people.

The people came towards

them waving their hands,

saying 'peace, we are not

fighting'. Some of them even

sat down. All of a sudden there

was shooting. Many of the

people ran, but some of them

fell."

Mr Mandella, the ANC de-

puty president, made a scathing

attack on the army after

visiting the scene: "Members of Inkatha, as well as the army,

must take full responsibility

for having taken lives without

any real provocation," he said.

However, their report says

that there is now no doubt that

£1 million donated by Soviet

miners, held in the accounts of

the Paris-based International

Mineworkers' Organisation,

was intended to help the

220,000 British miners en-

gaged in the national pits

strike of 1984-85.

The NUM president has

consistently claimed that the

money sent during the strike

was for the benefit of miners

internationally, which was

why it went to the IMO.

The investigators and the

two officials will go to Paris to

tell Alain Simon, general

secretary of the IMO, to

transfer the money, with in-

terest, to NUM accounts. That

will force an embarrassing

climbdown for Mr Scargill,

who, as IMO president must

sancion the transfer of money

effectively denied to British

miners since the strike.

The inquiry team — Mr

Richardson, Gordon Butler,

Idwal Morgan and George

Rees — wants to have the issue

settled before a meeting of the

union's national executive on

September 13, which will be

given details of the

investigation.

Mr Richardson said yes-

terday that Mr Scargill was "in

the clear". He added: "There

were very good reasons for

Arthur Scargill believing that

[Soviet] money was meant for

international purposes.

"There has never been any

missing money. We have

discovered that the money

donated by the Russians be-

longs to the NUM, and Mr

Scargill has accepted that."

Mr Scargill insisted that

there was no conflict of inter-

est and that leaders of Soviet

miners made it clear that their

money was for the NUM, it

would be handed over.

The hapless Mr Polozkov

then had to listen to a member

of the Moscow delegation

introduce a petition, signed by

162 delegates, objecting to

the draft policy programme and

calling for it to be scrapped

and rewritten. The pro-

gramme was described as a

collection of clichés and

generalities which offered no

remedy for the current turmoil

in the country.

One well-known radical, the

editor of the weekly *Moscow News*, Yegor Yakovlev, re-

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PETER LOMAS

Russian congress berates party leader

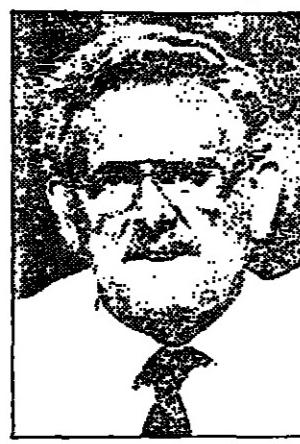
From MARY DEJEVSKY
 IN MOSCOW

MORE than 2,500 demoralised communists from all over the Russian Federation gathered in the Kremlin yesterday for the second part of their party congress and immediately heard calls for Ivan Polozkov, their recently elected leader, to resign.

Mr Polozkov, a conservative in the present Soviet political spectrum, is blamed for a sharp increase in the number of people leaving the Communist party, and confusion about the role of the recently established Russian party.

He sat in the centre of the platform, dwarfed by the powerful troika of President Gorb

Scargill faces biggest test as NUM gets sight of missing £1m



By KEVIN EASON

REGAINING £1 million for the National Union of Mineworkers should be a triumph at the end of the two-month investigation into the financial conduct of Arthur Scargill, the union's president.

The money could be in the NUM's bank account as early as next week provided negotiations with the International Mineworkers' Organisation go smoothly on Monday. However, NUM leaders who read the final detailed report from the four-man enquiry team next week will be asking why they have had to spend more than £250,000 on two investigations and wait more than five years to receive money donated by Soviet miners to ease the hardship of

miners and their families during their bitter year-long dispute.

The team is believed to have traced almost all of the money alleged to have been sent into a network of bank accounts by Mr Scargill and Peter Heathfield, the NUM general secretary, to avoid sequestration of union assets during the dispute. Only about £20,000 sent from Hungarian miners is yet to be traced although the investigators are confident that will be cleared up.

Investigators were pleased that they have finally ended the mystery of where the £1 million from Soviet miners was intended to go. Mr Scargill maintained that the money was for the benefit of miners internationally. In spite of requests to Soviet miners' union

leaders for clarification, he said they did not tell him the cash was for British miners only.

The NUM president maintains that reports from the Soviet Union are conflicting and the fact that the money was not deposited with the NUM originally indicates "something rather peculiar" about the method in which the money was donated. That dispute has been ended without a shadow of doubt, according to the investigators, and with Mr Scargill agreeing that the money should be handed over. The inquiry team agreed that Mr Scargill was never told specifically that the money was intended only for British miners.

The 14 members of the union's national executive committee will now be able to clear their minds of

doubts over where the money came from and who it belongs to. Their concern will be over why the union has had to wait so long for a decision and whether Mr Scargill can continue in his dual role as president of both the NUM and the IMO, which has been holding the £1 million.

Gordon Butler, one of the four-man team and Derbyshire NUM leader, said he believed the IMO should operate independently from unions and should have paid officers, including the post of president held by Mr Scargill. That would give Mr Scargill a stark choice: the NUM or the prestige IMO job.

Mr Scargill, however, faces his most critical test if the executive, as seems certain, calls a special dele-

gate conference of union officers from the pitsheads around Britain. Many will have been at the forefront of the national strike and, with their families, suffered the extreme hardship that the Soviet cash was supposed to ease.

One NUM official, who would not be named, said yesterday: "The NUM closes ranks at a time like this, particularly when there is such heavy criticism in the media. But the men at a special delegate conference will have the opinions of their wives and families behind them and will want to know why this entire affair has dragged on for so long. That is when Arthur faces his biggest test."

● This year Mr Scargill has consistently maintained that £1.4 million raised by Soviet and Eastern bloc

miners was donated for international union purposes (Mark Soysner writes). In November 1984, however, at the height of the pit strike, he said he had asked the Russians for money and they had donated £500,000 to the NUM.

He told a rally in Warwickshire: "I asked them for aid which they have given to us — half a million quid." Gavin Lightman QC, in his report into the financial affairs of the NUM, said £1.4 million, including £1 million from Soviet miners, should probably have gone to the NUM but the NUM received "little or no benefit".

Mr Scargill yesterday said the issue of who the money was intended for had been clouded by contradictory reports from different Soviet miners' leaders.

Magistrates' fears could alter law reform bill

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

KEY sections of the government's criminal justice bill due this autumn are now expected to be substantially reworked because of the strength of opposition facing Home Office ministers on some of the most controversial proposals.

In the face of strong opposition from the influential 27,000-member Magistrates' Association, ministers are expected to drop or modify the plan to make parents pay their children's fines and attend court.

Magistrates, while endorsing the general principle of parental responsibility, are unhappy about the extent to which their discretion on how much to involve parents will be controlled.

The expected overhaul of the proposals for increasing parental responsibility comes as ministers have been forced to rethink, because of opposition from judges and magistrates, another key part of the white paper; that courts should ignore offenders' previous convictions when imposing sentence.

The principles of the Home Office white paper on "crime, justice and protecting the public" have generally been endorsed. There has, however, been strong criticism of some specific proposals and it is expected that, with a possible general election on the horizon these will be be considered.

In particular, magistrates object to proposals that courts will no longer have power to fine only the child and that in deciding what financial penalty to impose, they must take account of parents' means and not just those of the children.

Joyce Rose, a deputy chairman of the association, said yesterday: "We fully accept the need for parental responsibility but it is also important to preserve what can be a very fragile family unit. Some par-

ents who appear before us need to have support in their efforts to control a wayward child, not to be punished."

Courts, she said, were already required to make parents pay the fine except where it was unreasonable not to and this discretion should be retained. "A consequence of this proposal could be that a single parent who fails to pay the fine is sentenced to custody in an adult court, which is surely against the spirit of the white paper. We would prefer to see the law left as it is."

A Home Office spokesman said: "All the responses are being taken on board, some to a lesser extent than others. All I can say is that the Magistrates' Association is a very influential body, and anything it has said will be taken very seriously."

The association is also opposed to a number of other proposals on parental responsibility, in particular those to:

- encourage courts to make more use of powers to order parents of juvenile offenders to be bound over in the sum of £1,000 to take proper care and control of them;
- require courts to bind over parents of juvenile offenders in every case unless it would be unreasonable to do so;
- allow courts to fine parents who refuse to be bound over where the court considers their refusal to be ill-founded or unreasonable;
- urge courts to make greater use of their power to attach a night restriction or curfew to a supervision order imposed on a juvenile offender.

This last proposal has been criticised by magistrates as "an intrusive measure which may produce negative and counter-productive results. A curfew could damage family relationships if applied without close attention to the circumstances of the individual case."



A recovery crew searching for the body of a painter among the wreckage of a cradle which crashed from the Severn Bridge yesterday, while others search the water near by. The man was missing after the cradle broke away from the bridge and plunged 150ft into the river. A 19-year-old painter survived the fall and another man was killed. Last night the search was continuing for the third man. Two

other workers had clung to the collapsing gantry suspended from the side of the bridge and scrambled to safety.

Lee Seaton, aged 19, swam free of the wrecked cradle and was rescued by one of four inshore lifeboats which joined two RAF helicopters in the search. Mr Seaton, of Tadworth, Gloucester, suffered chest injuries and shock and was said to be stable in hospital

last night. The three men, who worked for a contractor carrying out work on behalf of Avon County Council, were beneath the east tower at the Bristol end of the bridge when the gantry collapsed at around 12.25pm. They were shot-blasting old paint as part of a £70 million programme to strengthen and re-surface the bridge. There would normally have been four men working in the cradle, but one had just left

on a break. One workman who was standing on the bridge deck said: "I saw the gantry below me buckle, and when I heard the splash I raced down the steps and just saw a mass floating net to sea, and he disappeared about a mile away."

Investigators from the Health and Safety Executive were at the scene yesterday afternoon and the Department of Transport said there would be an inquiry into the accident.

Sheep farmers stage protest at French embassy

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of Welsh sheep farmers and beef farmers yesterday travelled to London to stage a noisy protest outside the French embassy against refusal by French farmers on cargoes of British meat and livestock exported to France.

Undeterred by a police ruling that no more than eight will be allowed into the embassy, in Knightsbridge, to deliver a letter of protest, the banner-waving demonstrators gathered outside chanting "Down with the French".

Geraint Davies, chairman of the Welsh branch of the National Farmers' Union, emerged from the embassy after the French common agricultural policy and that although they faced short-term difficulties, the removal of all trade barriers in the EC after 1992 would open new markets.

Sir Simon said that the attacks on British livestock cargoes were "barbaric" and accused the French government of initially "turning a blind eye" to what was going on. He was now satisfied, however, that the French were making an effort to ensure safe passage for British exports.

"We pressed the issue that we wanted to ensure that the supplies get through safely from the ports to their destination," Mr Davies said. "We are continuing to send our lorries to France, and, with the assistance of the French police in escorting them through demonstrators, the lorries have been reaching their destinations safely."

Mr Davies said that he understood the frustration of those who wanted retaliatory action against imports of French dairy produce and other commodities, but hoped that it would not come to that. "It is definitely not our policy to retaliate," he said.

There had been fears that French farmers, who complain that they are being put out of business by beef and lamb imports from Britain and the Irish Republic, might step up their action yesterday by intercepting lorries arriving at Channel ports. By late afternoon, however, there had been no reports of trouble.

Earlier, the Welsh farmers

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Oil companies prepare to answer pricing allegations

By DAVID YOUNG

Petrol price increases are being considered.

The oil companies will tell the OFT that pump prices are being set in the same way as they were when the Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigated the industry during the past year and gave it a clean bill of health. However, politicians have criticised the companies for selling petrol from stocks and basing the pump prices on current Rotterdam prices.

The companies' answer is that petrol drawn from stocks must by law be replaced instantly and that that has to be done at the current Rotterdam price. Companies such as

Shell, Esso, BP, Texaco, Mobil and Getty which have their own refineries, are required by law to keep stocks equivalent to 76.5 days' supply to provide a buffer against interruption to the world oil markets.

The companies will also point out that in recent years when crude oil prices fell they took considerable losses on stocks as they maintained them at the government set levels. Privately, some oil company executives have also been angered by allegations of profiteering from the Gulf crisis while government revenues from crude oil production in the North Sea and from petrol sales have risen by an estimated £10 million a day in the past three weeks.

The government takes an average of 80 per cent in tax from the price of every barrel of North Sea crude oil, and excise duty and VAT at a gallon of petrol at the present average price of 224p totals 131.4p. If the government is concerned about inflationary effects of rising prices, they say, it has scope for a reduction in tax.

Vivian Thomas, chief executive of BP Oil UK, said: "We are able to tell the OFT that petrol prices are being set in exactly the same way as before. We are doing business in exactly the same way as we were when the MMC investigated the industry."

"We are still losing money at the pumps as the Rotterdam product market rises. At one point before we increased prices by 4.4p a gallon at the weekend, we were losing 2.4p on every gallon sold. That gap has since narrowed but we can answer any allegations thrown at us that we are using the rising world oil price to increase profits."

Protesters attacked US jet with mallets

TWO peace protesters wearing Mickey Mouse ears caused nearly a quarter of a million pounds damage to an F-111 fighter aircraft with sledgehammers and paint, a court was told yesterday.

Stephen Hancock, aged 24, and Michael Hutchinson, aged 35, both of Adult Road, Northampton, were found guilty at Oxford crown court of damaging the aircraft at RAF Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, on March 20.

They had denied causing £223,560 damage to the American air force jet and possessing two mallets and a quantity of fluid with intent to cause damage.

Richard Benson, for the prosecution, said the two men put up a banner, attacked the fuselage with mallets and damaged instruments in the cockpit after breaking into the

airfield. They poured red liquid into the cockpit and on to the fuselage of the aircraft. They were arrested at the scene by Ministry of Defence police.

Stephen Hancock and Hutchinson did not go into the witness box or call witnesses. In a statement from the dock, Hancock told the jury: "I did disarm a nuclear capable F-111 because it is against both God's laws and human laws. I left my name and address and telephone number in the cockpit, so it was not an act I was ashamed of or that I wanted to run away from. This act was the most important I have ever done in my life and I do not regret it."

Sentenced on Hancock, a poet and publisher, and Hutchinson, a Quaker and musician, was adjourned for reports until Friday.

Man in the news

Waldegrave reveals a natural populist touch

By SHEILA GUNN

THE picture of a grinning William Waldegrave carrying a little girl clutching her doll down the steps of an Iraqi aircraft at Heathrow airport at 4.55am on Sunday looked like the perfectly contrived photo opportunity.

The Foreign Office minister has, however, never wasted too much time on image politics. Impulsive acts have tended to blow up in his face in the past.

As a thinking politician in a party traditionally suspicious of cleverness, his actions revealed a populist touch rarely seen during his ascent. Always highly regarded within the cloisters of Westminster, the past month has put the serious, tousle-haired figure repeatedly before the public for the first time. The reception

for the 199 women and children who were the first hostages to be airlifted out of Iraq was a culmination of three days of careful planning handled by Mr Waldegrave himself.

Rather than leave the arrangements to his officials, he chose to contact fellow ministers, Nicholas Scott, Roger Freeman and Peter Lloyd, to smooth out any financial, transport and immigration problems. Those close to him insist that his action in lifting down the little girl was spontaneous, an example of his pent-up emotion coming to the fore.

A less happy example came earlier when he was pilloried by the tabloids for suggesting that the 4,000 Britons in Kuwait should obey Iraq's orders to report to hotels. The criticism mirrored similar

trouble when he was snapped looking too happy last year in the company of Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader.

In spite of the criticism last month, Douglas Hurd wrote him a note specifically praising

his stewardship at the Foreign Office during the foreign secretary's short holiday. Foreign Office officials have no doubts about the young minister's standing with the foreign secretary and the prime minister.

At 44, he has been in political life for 20 years, although he only entered parliament in 1979. After Eton, Oxford and Harvard, he published a tome on Conservative ideology entitled *The Binding of Leviathan* that criticised the Thatcherite principles and denounced state controls.

While his Commons performances have improved from dismal to acceptable, he can occasionally sparkle when he believes deeply in the argument he is espousing. As a conviction politician, however, he is not at ease trying to sell policies that he does not fully support.

him well since he is essentially a shy, private man not given to lingering around Westminster after hours.

He was the architect of the government's first green policies at the environment department, and also helped to draw up the poll tax and housing reform. Like his friend Chris Patten, the environment secretary, he has buried his former "wet" tag during the Thatcher years, but still has the instincts of a One Nation Tory.

While his Commons performances have improved from dismal to acceptable, he can occasionally sparkle when he believes deeply in the argument he is espousing. As a conviction politician, however, he is not at ease trying to sell policies that he does not fully support.

Ken Maginnis, an Ulster Unionist MP, has written to Margaret Thatcher naming two men as members of the IRA who, he claims, were involved in two terrorist murders in Co Tyrone, Northern Ireland.

Mr Maginnis, Fermanagh and South Tyrone MP and security spokesman for the Ulster Unionists, once named in Parliament a person who was subsequently jailed for terrorist offences. The MP's letter to the prime minister, sent yesterday, called for security action against the North West Tyrone and Donegal unit of the IRA. He claimed that the two men were active IRA members who were involved last year in the shooting of Alvin Kilpatrick, of the Ulster Defence Regiment, and the killing last month of Andrew Begley near Castlederg.

Prison work

Ernest Saunders, Anthony Barnes and Gerald Ronson, convicted of fraud and theft in the Guinness trial, will start work at Ford Open Prison, near Arundel, West Sussex, today. The range of jobs they might be allocated include assembling wheelchair parts or lighting pendants; working in the farms and gardens unit; carrying out jail repairs and refurbishments; or working in the kitchen or laundry.

Park protection

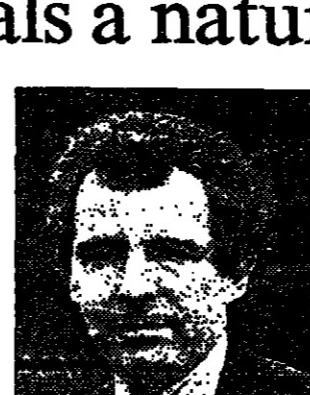
Four more national parks should be created in England and Wales, in the New Forest, the North Pennines, the South Downs and the Cambrian Mountains, according to the Council for National Parks, the umbrella body representing voluntary organisations with an interest in the parks. The council also wants increased government commitment to protect existing parks and a new national parks act.

SeaCat's return

HoverSpeed's catamaran SeaCat will resume service between Portsmouth and Cherbourg on Friday. The boat was taken out of service on Sunday when a water jet intake fractured. While it is being welded in Cherbourg the boat's designer will fine-tune the trim. HoverSpeed hopes the adjustments will end claims that the vessel might be scuppered after complaints of seasickness.

"A THEATRICAL LANDMARK"
Financial Times
DEREK JACOBI "MAGNIFICENT"
Daily Telegraph
In k e a n
"AN ABSURD ROMANTIC COMEDY HUGELY ENJOYABLE"
Time Out
THE OLD VIC
071 928 7611
Globe with bookings
FULLY AIR CONDITIONED

Joel in tiles



Waldegrave: planned the reception for hostages

trouble when he was snapped looking a little too happy last year in the company of Yassir

A-level mid-course assessment may be made compulsory

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

A-LEVEL students could be subject to compulsory mid-course assessment, under proposals put forward yesterday by the government's examination advisers. Up to 40 per cent of marks could be awarded by schools and colleges. Course assessment has been the focus of controversy over GCSE standards.

Draft principles for the reform of A-levels and AS-levels were produced by the School Examinations and Assessment Council at the request of John MacGregor, the education secretary. If accepted, the changes will be introduced in 1991, with the first awards made in 1994.

The 33 principles recommended by the council combine the biggest revision of A-levels since their introduction. Philip Halsley, the com-

council's chairman and chief executive, said, however, that the intention was to maintain or enhance standards. The recommendations are also designed to ease the transition to sixth-form work for pupils attempting A-levels after the less traditional approach found in GCSE syllabuses.

Sixth-form pupils would be encouraged to broaden their studies through a combination of A-levels and AS-levels, which would be retained at the present standard. The council wants students to study five subjects rather than the present three, and it is encouraging schools and colleges to extend the curriculum rather than simply offering the same subjects at both levels.

The council is also discussing with the National Council for Vocational Qualifications

More mothers work to pay school fees'

By OUR HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

MORE mothers are returning to work to enable families to afford the sharply rising fees of independent schools, according to a survey published yesterday.

A sample of 164 clients of Ernst & Young Financial Services, a London company specialising in school fees insurance plans, showed that compared with ten years ago 48 per cent more mothers worked to help to pay fees. More families were also taking out loans to produce sufficient income.

Since 1980, average fees had risen by 22 per cent compared with an increase of 18 per cent in the retail price index. The company's clients paid an average of £2,618 a term.

In spite of the cost, however, almost 90 per cent of the families intended educating all their children at fee-paying schools. A third said they were willing to move house to be within reach of their first choice school and never had considered sending their children to state schools.

The survey showed a change in attitude to the education of girls since 1980: 92 per cent of parents believed independent schooling was equally important for boys and girls, whereas a decade ago more than a third thought it was more important for boys. School

fees accounted for almost a quarter of the family budget of those in the survey, the same proportion as in 1980. Cutting back on holidays was the main method of trimming spending to make ends meet.

Grandparents remained the most common source of outside assistance, although fewer were contributing than in 1980. Of the families surveyed, one in five had scholarships but only 1 per cent began them under the government's student grants scheme.

David Mellor, the civil service minister, yesterday launched a scheme to encourage graduates to join the staff of European Community institutions, where salaries are better than in the home civil service. The European Fast Stream Programme is designed to provide up to 30 graduates a year to enter competitive posts and increase the number of British staff in European Union European agencies.

In the commission, the largest of the EC institutions, 11.2 per cent of staff are British but the increased share would be 15 per cent. Only 7.9 per cent of students recruited to the programme are British and in its first year competition for posts will be only 3 per cent of appointments are British.

Court told how solicitor's team used bribes for legal aid work

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A SOLICITOR headed a legal team that handed out bribes for extra work and swindled the legal aid fund in a "gross abuse of public money". Knightsbridge Crown Court was told yesterday.

One of the team, a telephonist at an emergency call service with perfume and gifts to obtain work from the duty solicitor scheme. As well as cash bribes, another telephonist was offered a curry dinner in an attempt to share extra work, the court was told.

The duty solicitor scheme is run by the Legal Aid Board to provide solicitors for people arrested by police, via an emergency telephone link. However, the law firm, McGregor Rose-Smith, led by the sole partner Brian McGregor-Rose-Smith, was not restricted to work in the scheme. Rose-Smith, aged 48,

Sarah Tonry, in Norfolk, and two law clerks he employed, Margaret Sinclair, 35, of Leyton, and Cynl Wayne, 57, of Blandford, Dorset, pleaded not guilty to conspiring to defraud the legal aid fund between March 1 and June 7 last year.

Two operators at Air Call were responsible for contacting solicitors on the Law Society rota when contacted by police needing someone to represent arrested suspects.

This case unfortunately concerns a gross abuse of public money and of the public themselves by lawyers," he said. The trial before Judge Quarren Evans continues.

Police chief sues over sex bias

By RONALD FAUX

THE highest ranking police woman in Britain yesterday began an action claiming that sex discrimination has denied her promotion.

Alison Halford, aged 50, assistant chief constable of Merseyside, is taking Northamptonshire police authority, Sir Philip Myers, inspector of constabulary for the North-West; James Sharples, chief constable of Merseyside; and David Waddington, the home secretary, to an industrial tribunal.

Miss Halford, in the police for 28 years, applied two years ago for the job of Merseyside's deputy chief constable. Four men were shortlisted and Mr Sharples was appointed. She then applied to be deputy chief constable of Northamptonshire, but was not interviewed.

The hearing is expected to begin in January.

Founder of firm that offered poll-tax immunity is missing

By DOUGLAS BROOM
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE High Court will be asked next week to order the arrest of a Cornish pensioner who set up an inactive mining company in order to help people to avoid the poll tax.

Fred Trull, a retired bookseller, claimed that charge-payers in England and Wales could gain immunity from the poll tax by investing £1.50 in his Royal Cornish Consols United Tin Mines Cost Book Company. He said that, under a charter granted by Henry VII to the Cornish stannary tin miners' parliament in 1508, an investor in a Cornish tin mine was exempt from paying taxes levied by the Westminster parliament.

Yesterday, the receiver appointed by the High Court to recover an estimated £1 million sent to Mr Trull by members of the public, said that he had vanished and that there was no trace of the £1 million. Lawyers will report back to the High Court next week with a view to starting contempt proceedings against Mr Trull.

Trull claimed Henry VII gave relief from poll tax. If Mr Trull were found to be in contempt, he could be arrested under warrant and jailed.

Neighbours said yesterday that Mr Trull had not been seen at his "bungalow" at Lerryn, near Lostwithiel, for the past six weeks and was believed to be in the Irish Republic. He resigned as clerk to the stannary parliament last week.

The Department of Trade and Industry intervened to stop Mr Trull trading in June



The centre of Totnes, which was devastated by fire early yesterday. The Devon town's East Gate, seen in its former glory (below), was destroyed and only one supporting arch remains. Many of the buildings from the town's prosperous Elizabethan age were gutted

Fire destroys the heart of Elizabethan market town

By ROBIN YOUNG

FIRE yesterday destroyed the centrepiece of Totnes, Devon, one of the best preserved Elizabethan market towns in Britain. The town's East Gate was reduced to bare stones and adjoining listed buildings were gutted.

The fire started shortly after 1am and raged for three hours. About 100 firemen were in action at the height of the blaze, pumping water from the river Dart to supplement supplies from street hydrants.

The fire is thought to have started in a former ballroom in an office next to the East Gate. The cause is not known.

The East Gate, known locally as "the arch", spans the town's main street. Its foundations are thought to be medieval, possibly Saxon. The Elizabethan timber superstructure was remodelled in 1632, when it was fitted with Gothic battlements and a caponier. The arch, together with its clock, is used as the logo for Totnes's tourist brochure.

Jonathan Aylett, a partner with the solicitors' firm Michelmore Hughes, which has used a room above the tower for more than 100 years, said: "There was nothing we could do but watch it burn. All we have been able to retrieve is some of the records which were in fireproof cabinets."

Totnes's Elizabethan buildings date back to a time of prosperity when the port town sent cloth and tin along the river Dart. In later years, wealth and population declined and most of the buildings were left largely intact.

The town centre was yesterday closed while police and firemen looked for clues and demolished walls left in a dangerous condition. Bob Murch, the town's mayor, has launched two appeal funds, one to raise money for those made homeless and another for restoration and rebuilding work.

Mr Murch paid tribute to the firemen who prevented flames spreading to other buildings in the conservation area. "The main street is a

funnel. If the fire brigade had not been so prompt it could all have gone up like a torch," he said.

Richard Butterfield, the town clerk, said: "Everybody is devastated. Part of the history of Totnes has gone. It is a disaster."

Harry Thomas, who leads guided walks around the town, added: "The jewel of the town has been destroyed. It is a terrible blow. We have had five other fires in Totnes in the past four years.

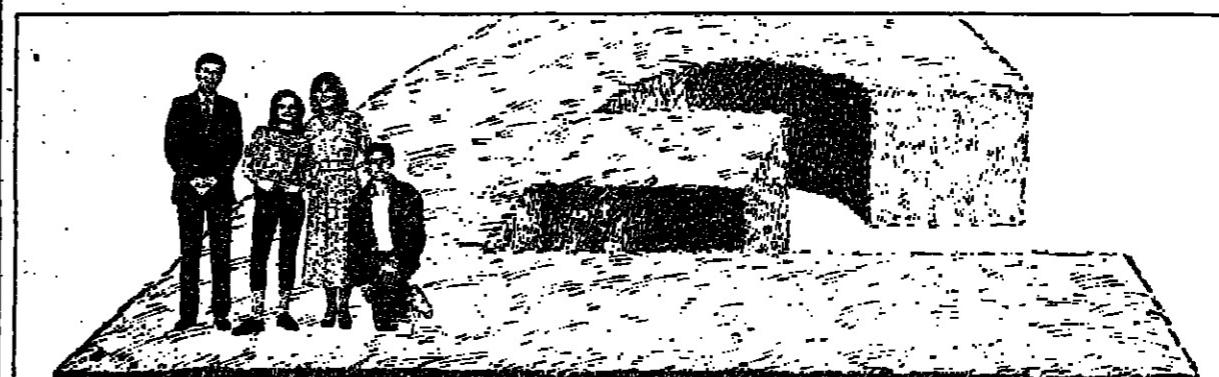
It is always a hazard where there are old buildings with lots of timber, lath and plaster walls and little fire insulation between them. Our objective will be to restore the buildings in the most authentic and faithful manner possible."

On the advice of police, yesterday's traditional Elizabethan market was cancelled, although the Totnes carnival children's fancy dress procession went ahead using a different route.

Leading article, page II



For the first time more people are getting moneywise.



after it became clear that the company had been set up under stannary law, which meant that investors would be liable for any debts it incurred.

Robert Buller, the Bristol accountant appointed receiver, said: "Basically the order of the court was that Mr Trull would supply the receiver with all the information about the company and its assets. He has not complied with that order in any way."

Mr Buller said: "I saw Mr Trull at the original hearing, but I have not spoken to or seen him since."

In addition to the charge that he had placed investors' money at risk by failing to set up the company under English law, Mr Trull also faces allegations of trading as an unregistered investment adviser.

The Department of the Environment said it had made it clear from the outset that Mr Trull's scheme gave no immunity from the community charge.

"There was never any question of anyone being exempted from the poll tax as a result of investing in this company," a spokesman said.

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Pioneers explore the risks and rewards of a reformed NHS



Tennison: matching district services to health needs

ALTHOUGH the government has persistently refused to run a pilot scheme for the NHS reforms, a regional health authority has decided to test the changes six months before they apply to the whole country. On October 1, a full internal market will start to operate throughout the eight districts under the East Anglian regional health authority.

Real money will follow the patient, operations will be priced, contracts will be made between district health authorities and hospitals for inpatient admissions, and managers will determine the care needs of their areas. Only self-governing hospitals and GP budgets will be delayed until April.

Hospitals will, for the first time, compete for patients. Those that attract business will, in theory, have extra funds for services. Those deserted by patients will

Local health officials are to hold a trial run of NHS reforms that the government refuses to test. As Jill Sherman reports, hopes of matching services to needs are combined with fears of repeating the chaos of a previous experiment

have to improve quality or lower costs, or both, to avoid collapse.

East Anglian has pioneered the internal market on a small scale for more than a year, with three districts, Peterborough, Huntingdon and Cambridge, placing contracts with each other. In April, the region ran a simulated exercise to test the internal market to its limit.

The three-day simulation ended in chaos, with the market effectively crashing. Hospitals reduced to emergency admissions only, had to lower quality to keep to budgets, and community units were swamped with patients discharged early.

The region is determined that

such a breakdown should not occur in reality. A group has been set up to co-ordinate agencies that will be involved in buying health care, such as GPs, community nurses and social services staff.

Managers are also ensuring strict quality standards in each contract. These stipulate maximum waiting times for first appointments and in outpatient departments. In addition, the region is determined to improve health outcomes. Specific targets are being written into contracts, such as reducing perinatal mortality rates, lowering heart disease deaths and improving mobility in the elderly. One district has been

told to reduce its perinatal mortality rate from over seven deaths per 1,000 births to six deaths by 1994.

Barry Tennison, consultant in public health medicine for Cambridge district health authority, says that, for the first time, districts will be able to match services to health needs. By analysing Cambridge's health record, Mr Tennison has decided that more money should be spent on community services for the elderly, on patients with serious head injuries and on stroke patients. He also intends to invest resources in health promotion to "get middle-aged executives to jog regularly and eat proper diets".

Most deals being struck between districts and hospitals are three-year rolling contracts that can be renegotiated annually. Where possible, contract prices are based on actual specialty costs, with, for

example, a hip operation at £2,500, including a ten-day stay.

East Anglian managers have opted for cost volume contracts, where the contract price is related to workload, which are more specific than the block contracts advocated by the health department.

The hospital agrees to do,

say, 300 hip operations for a district authority at a fixed price to cover its overheads.

If there are more patients, the hospital will do the extra work at marginal costs.

Stephen Thornton, the region's NHS review co-ordinator, said:

"In the first three years, there will only be minor changes ... but in five or ten years, the pattern of services, influenced by consumer choice, may be radically different."

It will be far more community-oriented, with less hospital provision and more day surgery." He is, however, sceptical about early

improvements in local waiting lists, and sees a problem in the paucity of information available for contracting. "In many cases, the costs will not be as accurate as they could be and there is a danger that the whole exercise will become discredited," he said.

David Astley, general manager at Addenbrooke's hospital, Cambridge, is worried about possible changes in referral patterns. "If we lose 1 per cent of our business, we will be in trouble," he said. Addenbrooke's will have to compete against London teaching hospitals to keep its critical 20 per cent of referrals from outside its region.

Mr Tennison said: "The reforms are not a panacea for solving all the problems in the health service, but we will be a bit more certain about what it is that we are buying with the limited resources we have."

Unnecessary X-rays blamed for up to 250 deaths a year

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

UNNECESSARY X-rays cause between 100 and 250 cancer deaths a year that could be avoided if all hospitals adopted the best available practices, a report published today estimates.

The Royal College of Radiologists and the National Radiological Protection Board set out 21 measures that would cut radiation exposures from diagnostic X-rays by almost half without affecting patient care.

At least 20 per cent of X-ray procedures were "clinically unhelpful", the report says, while others were unnecessarily repeated or carried out at too high a power. Standards varied widely, with the best hospitals administering only one twentieth of the dose given by the worst ones for identical examinations.

By eliminating pointless X-

rays, reducing the number of films taken per examination, reducing the time taken for certain procedures, and ensuring that the minimum necessary power is used for each exposure, the total dose could be reduced by about 7,500 man-sieverts a year.

By comparison, the fallout from nuclear weapons testing provides 550 man-sieverts a year, while the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power station in the Soviet Union produced 2,100 man-sieverts in the first year (much less now), and discharges from nuclear power plants generate 30 man-sieverts a year.

Barbara MacGibbon, assistant director of the protection board and a member of the working party that produced the report, said yesterday that as long as X-ray examinations were well conducted, the bene-

fits would invariably outweigh the risks.

The wide variation in the average dose in different hospitals, however, indicated that the potential existed for reducing doses without affecting patient management.

The working party is critical of routine chest X-rays and of X-rays used to diagnose lower back pain. Women under the age of 50 should be discouraged from breast screening unless there were symptoms of disease, or their mother or sister had suffered from cancer of the breast. Computed tomography, which delivers particularly high doses, should be used with discretion.

Barron Wall, secretary of the working party, said that the cost of the measures recommended would be very little. They would mostly pay for themselves in decreased wear and tear on equipment, without taking account of the £100 million the extra cancer deaths were estimated to cost.

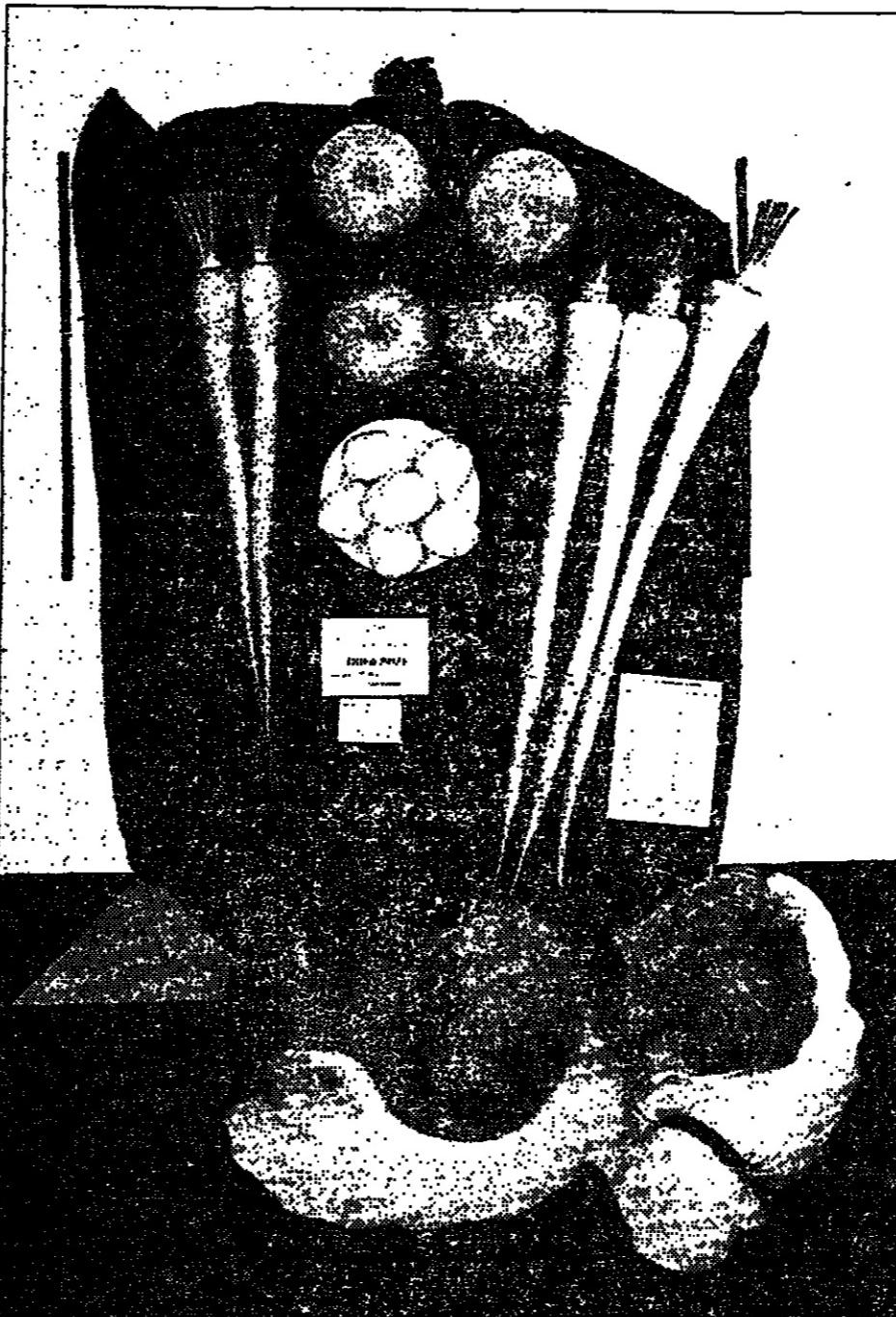
X-rays are by far the largest source of man-made radiation, accounting for some 87 per cent of the total dose to the British population. In spite of that, the evidence is that medical X-rays are used far less frequently in Britain than in some other advanced countries. France and the United States have about twice as many examinations a person as Britain.

One reason for unnecessary X-rays was poor management, the working party concludes. A recent study at an orthopaedic clinic in Scotland showed that one-third of patients had to have their X-rays repeated because the original films had not been sent on by their GPs, in spite of this having been requested.

A third of those repeats were high-dose examinations of the lower spine. While that was believed to be exceptional, repeat rates of about 10 per cent because films had been lost or were of poor quality seemed typical. With proper quality control, it should be possible to have that to about 5 per cent.

The X-ray machines in use in hospitals give the radiologists no indication of the radiation dose to the patient, so hospitals could be unaware that their standards were lower than others.

The speakers insisted that there was no clear evidence that surgeons with HIV had infected their patients. However, Dr Shanson and Dr Schaffner called for screening for all surgeons and the US centres for disease control are considering whether infected surgeons should continue operating.



Prize-winning vegetables that are never likely to be found on a market stall are admired by visitors to the City of London Flower Show at Guildhall yesterday. In spite of the drought, the vegetable section was well supported

Routine screening for Aids is urged

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

PATIENTS admitted to London hospitals should be routinely screened for Aids to reduce the risk of infection to staff and to ensure early treatment, a consultant microbiologist said yesterday.

Dr David Shanson, consultant microbiologist at Westminster Hospital, London, suggested that all patients, apart from emergency cases, should be given a questionnaire that would ask about their lifestyle and recent high-risk practices. This would be combined with a clinical case history to determine whether the patient was vulnerable to infection.

If the patient was, he or she should then be asked to have an Aids test. "If they refused they would be treated as if they had HIV," Dr Shanson said. Speaking at the Hospital Infection Society's second annual conference yesterday, he suggested that such procedures would be particularly important in all operating theatres, when only a small percentage of patients were likely to be infected. In London, two out of four people out of every 1,000 aged 25 to 49 are estimated to have HIV, a figure which drops to about one per 1,000 elsewhere in the country. Dr Shanson suggested that extra

precautions should only be used universally if prevalence rates rose to more than 1 per cent of the population.

He admitted, however, that it would be preferable to give all patients questionnaires when they were admitted, as it would enable early treatment and reduce the risk of transmission in the community.

Conference delegates were told that surgeons in the United States and Britain have become increasingly concerned about the risk of being infected by HIV-positive patients while they are carrying out operations. There are, however, no documented cases of surgeons or other health workers contracting the disease in this way, according to Dr William Schaffner, head of the department of preventive medicine at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee.

American figures show that 20 health workers have become infected with HIV after accidental jabs from needles or other blood contact in hospitals and two others have developed Aids.

The speakers insisted that there was no clear evidence that surgeons with HIV had infected their patients. However, Dr Shanson and Dr Schaffner called for screening for all surgeons and the US centres for disease control are considering whether infected surgeons should continue operating.

Public warned against direct mail trickery

By LIN JENKINS

DUBIOUS sales pitches used by some timeshare companies are being used to sell other products, the Office of Fair Trading said yesterday.

Letters, often posted in the United States, offering prizes and inviting the consumer to make a telephone claim are a disguised attempt to sell a range of goods, including cosmetics and domestic water filters.

Once on the telephone the salesman tries to close a sale before giving details of the prize.

The X-ray machines in use in hospitals give the radiologists no indication of the radiation dose to the patient, so hospitals could be unaware that their standards were lower than others.

The working party recommends that hospitals should make measurements of skin doses from time to time and compare them with best available practice, and that manufacturers should be encouraged to build patient-exposure monitoring devices into diagnostic X-ray equipment.

also be set up where the driver uses a numeric keypad to let his controller know what he is doing without making a telephone call. Tapping in 14, for example, would let his company know he is going off duty. Number two means he is having his dinner break.

Mr Scorer said that his company had built up a good relationship with police forces all over the country as well as the Metropolitan Police in London. "We can now phone them and let them know a vehicle is in trouble, and they can respond," he said.

"Several years ago their response to a call from us was: 'How do you know a security vehicle is in trouble?' On one occasion in Cambridge we had a security van which had followed a police vehicle back to the station. When we contacted them and said we think our vehicle is in your pound outside the station, they said: 'What do you know, you're all the way down in London? We finally alerted them to look and there it was. It's rather nice when that happens.'

Mr Scorer said the system analyses several pairs of reference signals to establish an accurate position for the vehicle. It then sends back an ultra-high frequency signal to establish the vehicle's position on an Ordnance Survey grid reference, as well as its direction, together with an alarm signal.

Vehicles fitted with the same principle as marine radio navigation systems, which compare signals from pairs of transmitters to find the position of vessels. It uses a nationwide network of 50 metre masts, about 200 Kilometres apart, which transmit reference signals at low frequencies between 130 and 150 kilohertz.

Vehicles fitted with a radio transceiver the size of a hardback book, together with a concealed aerial. The unit

uses a numeric keypad to let his controller know what he is doing without making a telephone call. Tapping in 14, for example, would let his company know he is going off duty. Number two means he is having his dinner break.

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Historic guga hunt is backed by RSPB

By KERRY GILL

FOR the past 1,000 years, it is believed, young men from Ness in the Hebridean island of Lewis have risked their lives on a tiny, uninhabited outcrop in the Atlantic to trap the guga, a delicacy beloved by Gaels the world over.

In his recent review of the timeshare industry, Sir Gordon strongly criticised personalised direct mail advertising offerings awards without making the purpose clear.

This selling method gives consumers no opportunity to make a reasoned and considered decision to make a purchase. It drives a coach and horses through all the principles of fair trading."

He said that personalised direct mail was regarded as advertising. Consequently, anyone who had not received a promised award could complain to the Advertising Standards Authority.

The gugas are sold for about £10 a brace. Many are salted and sent overseas to expatriate Lewismen, who wait each year to renew their taste for the oily birds.

Once boiled, they are said to be delicious, although one islander who has never developed the taste said that they were disgusting.

Guga hunts have little in common with the Scottish grouse season. Able-bodied men sail to the nature reserve of Sula Sgeir, where they can spend up to three weeks encamped above the cliffs where the gugas nest and breed. Up to 3,000 birds can be caught each season, although six years ago the society was thought to have been successful in persuading the hunters to limit annual killings to 2,000.

The hunters maintain that the guga is not an endangered species. There are an estimated 8,000 nesting on Sula Sgeir each year and their numbers are rising, they claim.

For once, it seems that the trappers and the society agree. Stuart Benn, assistant species management officer, said: "It does not seem to be having any adverse effect on the gugas. We believe there are about 9,000 nesting there now.

My opinion is that it is a traditional hunt that has been going on for at least 400 years, and probably much longer."

Car firms 'must face challenge of open market'

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

EUROPEAN car manufacturers cannot hide behind the protection of restrictions on Japanese imports but must face the challenge of an open car market and "bite the bullet" of restructuring to become more competitive, a Lords committee report says today.

The committee, chaired by Lord Aldington, backs the European Commission's plan to end quotas by 1993, creating a single market without recklessly exposing the industry to a surge in Japanese imports. The report concludes that it would be a tragedy if the EC adopted a two-tier single market by exempting the car industry from the dismantling of trade barriers.

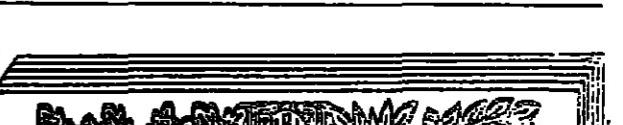
Japanese-owned factories in the EC, such as the Nissan plant in Sunderland, should not be covered by import restrictions although governments need to negotiate local-content agreements with Japanese firms.

"Such firms will have to intensify their efforts, and those firms which have not climbed this ladder fast enough will face a stark choice. They can either meet the challenge and bite the bullet of restructuring or they can fall into decline under the pressures from their rivals. What they cannot do is to rely on hiding behind the protection of national import controls."

The peers say that the Japanese have shown the benefits from rival firms collaborating on basic and long-term research.

Attempts to break into the Japanese car market had failed because one member state tended to break ranks in pursuit of a separate deal. "Hence the Japanese did not take the commission seriously when it claimed to represent a unified front of all parties," the report says.

House of Lords select committee on the European Communities: a single market for cars (Stationery Office: £11.05)



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TRADES UNION CONGRESS: BLACKPOOL

PETER LOMAS

NUM leader comes under savage attack from Kinnock

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND TIM JONES

NEIL KINNOCK launched a devastating assault on Arthur Scargill yesterday as he rammed home the message to the TUC conference in Blackpool that there will be no special favours for the unions under a future Labour government.

Twenty-four hours after Mr Scargill had clashed publicly with moderate union bosses over TUC backing for Labour's acceptance of much of the government's employment legislation, the Labour leader turned his words against him to emphasise that there can be no return to the cosy deals that characterised the last Labour government.

Without naming the president of the National Union of Mineworkers, Mr Kinnock's target was clear as he recalled that the day before he had heard someone saying that the TUC vote was a betrayal of principle and demanding special favours from a Labour government. The accusation about principle, Mr Kinnock said, was a serious charge and a false one.

To applause from delegates, the Labour leader argued that principles were of little help to the needy unless they could be translated into action. Then, in a pointed reminder that Mr Scargill's brand of union militancy had hardly proved successful over the past 11 years, he added, in a passage that drew the most enthusiastic response from delegates: "The test of principles is how you put them into effect, not how you parade them for effect. That might not impress those who think that principles are best cherished in opposition. They might be comfortable listening to the sound of their own self-righteousness. But I must say, it is not those people who suffer for lack of power."

Mr Kinnock also scorned Mr Scargill for his conduct during and after the miners' strike of 1984-5. "I have to tell you that I think it is a pretty peculiar set of principles that produces martyrdom for the followers and never sacrifice for the leaders."

Mr Kinnock was given a standing ovation by about three-quarters of the delegates. The rest joined the NUM president in staying in their seats and not joining in the applause as they provided a silent reminder that an important but declining proportion of the union movement is not yet ready to embrace Mr Kinnock's electoral pragmatism. The majority later found another way of expressing their disapproval of the miners' leader when they declined to elect him to the TUC general council.

Mr Scargill, who the day before had delighted his followers with the ferocity of his assault on the retreat by Labour and the TUC leadership from their past pledges to scrap all Tory union laws, said merely, after the ovation: "No comment is necessary".

Delegates and union leaders immediately drew parallels between Mr Kinnock's contemptuous dismissal yesterday of Mr Scargill and his electrifying attack on Derek Hatton, the Militant leader of Liverpool council, at the Labour conference in 1985. The only difference was that then he provoked a public outburst from his target.

The Labour leader's speech was welcomed by most union leaders, but a minority of hard-line left-wingers resented his attack on Mr Scargill and his intervention in their affairs.

Alan Sapper, general secretary of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians, likened Mr Kinnock's speech to a lecture by Edward Heath, the former Conservative prime minister.

More typical was the response of Bill Jordan, presi-



Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, making a point during a debate in Blackpool yesterday, on the second day of the congress

dent of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, who said: "In his barely disguised attack on Arthur Scargill, one of yesterday's people, he pulled it together with Margaret Thatcher, saying both of them are spouting lies, half truths and hypocrisy. The only rights we want guaranteed are those which are in law and which are fair."

John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB general union, said: "He was speaking as a future prime minister". Ken Gill, general secretary of the Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union, said, however: "I didn't know what he was talking about when he spoke about favours. I didn't know we had any."

Building on the boost to his leadership from the employment law vote, Mr Kinnock said that fairness not favours would be the watchword of a Labour administration under his control. That was what the TUC had accepted with its endorsement of the reformed industrial relations package.

Labour's purpose was not favours for its friends, but justice for all. That was how people should view the party's commitment to decent pen-

Philip Bassett, page 10

sions and health care, good housing and education, equal opportunities and rights to join a trade union.

"Surely, it is basic to this movement that these must be rights of citizenship, not gifts of patronage, not favours . . . Leave the favouritism, the backhanders, the nepotism, the insider dealing and the old boy system to the Tories and their 'friends of the family'".

Mr Kinnock said, Labour's way was different. It was based on equity, merit, fair play, civil rights and justice.

Mr Kinnock couched his attack on Mr Scargill and his insistence that in power Labour would operate an arms-length relationship with the unions with a denunciation of the "wasted Eighties".

He maintained that the Conservatives had squandered £85 billion in oil revenues and £35 billion from selling public assets. They had also imposed the heaviest tax burden in British history, setting aside the poll tax.

The "wasted Eighties" would be the Tories' epitaph and the legacy Labour government would inherit.

Delegates accept plan for workplace 'green audits'

By PETER MULLIGAN

GOVERNMENT plans to stabilise carbon dioxide emissions by 2005 were denounced by union leaders during a debate on the environment in which TUC plans for "green audits" at the workplace were unanimously approved.

John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB, accused the prime minister of setting the target deliberately low in an effort to avoid action for years to come.

Calling for stabilization of emissions by 2000, he said that the public was now noticing the contrast between the government's "soft green statements" and its damaging policies.

He highlighted cuts in the programme to cleanse power station emissions and said: "Margaret Thatcher talks about trees and lakes, but her policies produce the acid rain that kills them both". He predicted that the government's environment white paper due to be published in a few weeks would be as satisfying to real environmentalists as a "lungful of exhaust fumes".

Turning to the TUC's plans, he proposed green audits at the workplace that should cover everything from raw materials and disposable waste to packaging and stationery. If the government declined to lay down joint guidelines for environmental audits, the unions would concentrate on making deals with the big companies.

If companies were unresponsive, he pledged a campaign to oblige each one to undertake an environmental audit by law according to set standards and to publish the results.

Mr Edmonds called on unions to take responsibility for cleaning up the results of the filth mismanagement of the past and for creating a greener economy.

He also criticised the lack of action by

America and Japan which have not set targets for the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions. He promised that contact would be made with trade union movements in those countries to campaign for emission controls.

Jimmy Knapp, National Union of Railways general secretary, said that the government target for reducing carbon dioxide emissions was far too modest and the unions might even have to go beyond the TUC target.

Despite another oil crisis and the price of petrol edging up, there was still no serious push for energy conservation.

John Ellis, general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, said that to reject nuclear power would contribute heavily to global warming. He called for developed countries to recognise the benefits of "limitless" power provided by nuclear generation.

Bill Etherington, of the National Union of Mineworkers, told delegates: "We must resist the option of nuclear power as an antidote to global warming". He said that Mrs Thatcher was wedded to nuclear power because of contempt for the coal industry and hatred of the union leadership.

Acid rain, he said, could best be controlled by flue gas desulphurisation which could reduce sulphur dioxide emissions by 90 per cent.

The congress unanimously supported a motion calling for the raising of awareness on environmental issues inside and outside the workplace and for the development of environmental audits.

• A call for the "greening" of the National Health Service, the largest employer in Western Europe, with a million workers, won unanimous backing from delegates. Maureen O'Mara, of Npue, said: "We do not want any more reports of clinical waste and used needles turning up on east coast beaches".

Strike votes over shorter hours

Increase safety staff call
By OUR EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

A UNION leader said yesterday that the number of safety inspectors must be increased by half to make Britain's health and safety laws effective.

Bill Brett, general secretary of the Institution of Professionals, Managers and Specialists, said other companies could also be affected by industrial action unless they reduced the working week to 37 hours. He said that his union would be setting a date soon by which the first stage of the campaign, aimed eventually at securing a 35-hour week, would be completed.

Mr Ferry, told delegates: "Companies who have not yet conceded will have to concede by that date or face the inevitable consequences of strike action".

Six of the companies where

strike action is planned are in Scotland and the other is in Darlington. Between them, they employ almost 600 workers. Ballot results are expected from three other firms, in North Wales; in Belfast and at GEC in East Anglia.

Mr Ferry announced 31 new agreements giving engineering workers a shorter working week and said that the campaign was now unstoppable. "We have now won from almost every major engineering employer in the UK the one thing they said they would never agree to, shorter hours on trade union terms."

Bill Jordan, president of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, said: "The campaign has worked brilliantly. We have well over 1,000 agreements and not one single defeat."

Training 'in difficulty'

Training enterprise councils will be subject to increasing crises and resignations next year; delegates were told during a debate on training.

Tim Webb, of the Manufacturing Science Finance Union, said: "That plans by enterprise council executives had been sent back by the Training Agency, acting on the government's behalf, with demands for cuts."

Local pay bargaining 'will mean teaching job losses'

By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government's plan to allow local authorities to opt out of national pay bargaining for teachers will lead to redundancies and bigger classes, delegates were told yesterday.

The warning came from Sue Rogers, a senior vice-president of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, as delegates unanimously passed a resolution condemning the proposal put forward by John MacGregor, the education secretary, in July.

Mr Brett said that this financial year the executive's grant allocation from the Treasury was £116 million, a cut of £9 million. "Michael Howard, the employment secretary, must secure an increase to £160 million in next year's grant allocation if the HSE is to do its job properly".

He added that the space of complex new regulations, such as those covering pesticides, dangerous substances, genetic manipulation, noise and electricity, made it imperative for the number of inspectors to be increased.

teacher shortages. While ministers argued that there was nothing to worry about, parents were anxious to know if their children would have a full-time teacher from the start of term.

Mr McAvoys was critical of the aggressive recruiting drive undertaken by local authorities in Europe, Australasia and America. "I do not seek to imply that those recruited are incompetent. I do believe", he said, "that there is concern about the relevance of their qualification, their training and their preparation to the needs and demands of our system".

Mr McAvoys cited the example of a teacher from Massachusetts hired for a British classroom who had taught on an Indian reservation but never in an inner city. In another case, a New Jersey teacher began his career in a British school.

Delegates also supported a resolution calling for free nursery education for all children aged three to five whose parents wanted the service.

Japanese firms get union offer

By TIM JONES
EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE Amalgamated Engineering Union has launched an aggressive marketing campaign in Japan offering companies that are considering investing in Britain a single-union agreement designed to minimise the possibility of strikes or confrontation.

The AEU initiative is the latest move in the so-called "beauty contest" battle between unions that approach investors to persuade them that new jobs should be offered to their members.

At present, four unions, including the AEU, are trying with each other to gain sole negotiating rights for the 3,000 workers who will be employed at the £700 million plant being built by the Toyota car company in Derbyshire.

Unions will also learn within the next month which one, if any, has been chosen to represent employees at the new Japanese-owned Pioneer plant in Wakefield where 1,000 workers will manufacture music equipment for cars.

The glossy bilingual brochure that the AEU is sending to Japanese companies emphasises that the adversarial relationship of unions and employers is an outdated concept. We are now moving even further ahead into the dawn of a new era of a progressive partnership between management and unions."

Mr Gavin Laird, AEU general secretary, who disclosed details of the plan at the congress in Blackpool, said that the union would not sign any deal that contained a no-strike agreement.

"We could not do that because ultimately that is a decision for the workforce, but we believe the package we offer, which includes agreement on pendulum arbitration, will make industrial action extremely unlikely."

Mr Laird said it was clear that the days of multi-union bargaining were numbered. "It is now either one union or no union."

He added that the "yesterday's men" attitude of the Transport and General Workers' Union to press for multi-union recognition had cost jobs when the Ford company decided to abandon its plans to build a £40 million plant in Dundee.

In addition to a single-union deal the AEU is also offering a range of benefits including:

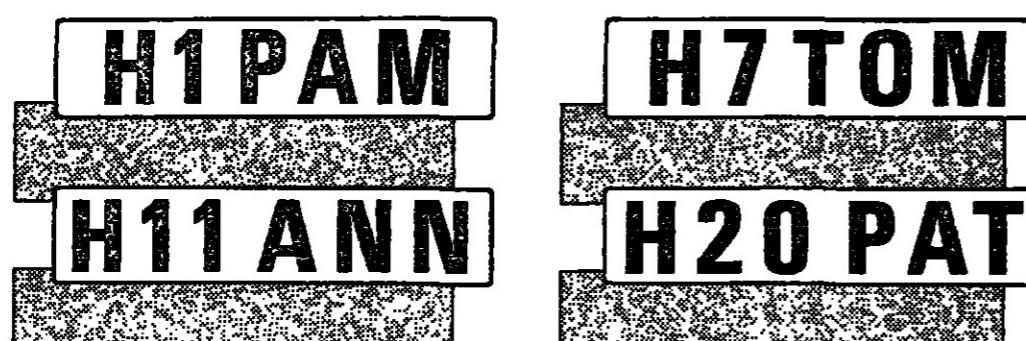
- Single status for all employees, to break down the old artificial barriers between the shop floor and the office.

- Independent conciliation and arbitration to deal with problems that cannot be resolved internally.

- Flexible work patterns and training to maximise flexibility and productivity.

Four years ago, the AEU secured the first single-union deal in the motor industry after its agreement with Nissan.

Create your own number



From October 1, making your personal transport a touch more personal will be that much simpler.

With the introduction of Select Registrations from the DVLA you can enjoy a new form of self expression when buying a new vehicle.

Select Registrations let you create your own personal 'H' registration mark using any number in the exclusive 1-20 range together with three letters of your choice.

Further information is available by calling the Select Registrations hotline 0734 757575.

Select Registrations will be sold on a first come first served basis from 8.00am on October 1 by calling the above number or by instructing your new vehicle dealer.

DVLA
SELECT
REGISTRATIONS

0734 757575

Prices from £200-£2500 plus an assignment fee of £80.

Just in time

Troops fire on township mobs as black strife deepens

From GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

RAMPAGING mobs hacked and burnt dozens of people to death and witnesses said troops opened fire indiscriminately in a resurgence of black township violence around Johannesburg yesterday.

President de Klerk appealed for peace and Nelson Mandela expressed outrage at the army's conduct during separate visits to the strife-torn areas, but the conflict, which claimed more than 500 lives last month, appeared to be spiralling out of control.

Renewed fighting between Zulu supporters of Inkatha and Xhosa-speaking residents, who broadly support the African National Congress, flared late on Monday night. At least 10 people were killed during the night in three townships, and by midday yesterday, the death toll was nearing 40. The worst clashes were reported in Soweto, west of Johannesburg, where witnesses said Inkatha warriors stabbed and bludgeoned about 20 people to death in a workers' hostel, and troops later opened fire on a crowd which had gathered round the building.

N. Khumalo, a photographer, said he went towards the hostel compound at about 4am. "As I came in, the army was also entering the area. They took up positions and cocked their guns. I thought maybe they wanted to scare people. The people came towards them waving their hands, saying 'peace, we are not fighting'. Some of them even sat down. All of a sudden there was shooting. Many of the people ran but some of them fell." Mr Khumalo said when it was over, he counted 11 bodies in and around the hostel.

A Roman Catholic priest gave a similar account, saying he had been trying to negotiate with riot police when soldiers opened fire indiscriminately. He also claimed that armoured vehicles had run over dead and dying people.

A police spokesman confirmed that 11 bodies had been found after troops had moved in to assist police confronted by a mob of 5,000 and said a military board of

Tennis fan murdered by muggers

New York — Police arrested seven youths for the murder in a Manhattan underground train station of a Utah tourist who came here with his family to see the US Open tennis tournament. Brian Watkins, aged 22, was fatally stabbed on Sunday as he tried to fight off a gang that robbed his father and punched his mother.

The gang was "trying to get money to go dancing at Roseland", a police officer said. Roseland, a famed dancehall, was holding a rap music concert and is three streets from the underground station. (Reuter)

Boycott threat

Bangkok — The Khmer Rouge will boycott Cambodian peace talks scheduled in Jakarta this week unless Hun Sen, prime minister of the government in Phnom Penh, attends. Mr Hun Sen has said he decided not to attend because Prince Sihanouk was staying away. "Why should we go?" the Khmer Rouge has asked. "Who are we going to talk to? Those junior puppets?" (Reuter)

Hong Kong move

Hong Kong — John Wood, former deputy director of public prosecutions and head of the Serious Frauds Office, who secured the convictions in the Guinness case, has arrived here to take up his new post as director of public prosecutions (Jonathan Braude writes). He has said it will take him six months to settle in, but his first task will be to clean up alleged corruption in his own department.

Chile bombing

Santiago — Bombs rocked the Chilean capital hours before the ceremonial reburial of Salvador Allende, the Marxist president who died in a coup 17 years ago. Police said they believed the bombs were placed by an extreme right-wing group, named the "September 11 Commandos" after the date of the 1973 coup which toppled Allende. (Reuter)

Bread shortage

Bucharest — Local authorities in Romania appealed to consumers to buy less bread in the face of food shortages. The Prefect's Office in Dimbova, a county just north of Bucharest, said it had recommended daily limits of 1lb for villagers, 1½lb for townspeople and 2lb for workers in heavy industry. It denied that this meant formal rationing. (Reuter)

Liberia setback

Freetown — The West African peacekeeping force in Liberia has been forced to withdraw from Monrovia's James Spriggs Payne airport under rebel fire. Diplomats in Sierra Leone quoted General Arnold Quainoo, the force commander, as saying his troops pulled our under attack from Charles Taylor's rebels. (Reuter)



Words of comfort: President de Klerk smiles as his wife, Marlene, hugs a hospital patient in Soweto during a visit to investigate violence

Moscow in attempt to woo Japan

From JOE JOSEPH
IN TOKYO

JAPAN and the Soviet Union began another attempt to defrost their icy relations last night when Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, arrived in Tokyo to prepare the way for a visit next year by President Gorbachev.

"I believe that Mr Gorbachev's planned visit will be an important turning point for Japan-Soviet relations. The Soviet Union and Japan should further expand bilateral relations and secure stronger co-operation in various fields," said Mr Shevardnadze on arrival.

He and his Tokyo counterpart,

Taro Nakayama, will discuss the problems of Moscow's need for Japanese investment and technology, both for its economy and to develop the Soviet Far East, and Japan's wish for the return of four islands in the Kuril chain, just north of Japan, which it says Moscow invaded illegally during the second world war.

Mr Gorbachev said recently he was ready to discuss any issue with Japan. Tokyo hopes Mr Shevardnadze will say just how much progress Japan can expect on the territorial dispute and whether the Soviet leader will be coming in the spring, a commonly mentioned time.

Japan is not pleased that Mr Gorbachev has travelled the world but not so far found time to visit his economically powerful neighbour. It is hoped that when he comes a peace treaty between the two countries could be signed which would finally end the second world war.

Tokyo's embarrassment at being the world's last cold warrior, and Moscow's desperate need of a helping hand, is nudging both towards some sort of compromise.

It is felt that Japan may be able to buy back indirectly the four islands through aid and loans. The "Hong Kong solution" under which Moscow would hand back the islands after a fixed number of years is also considered a possible option.

Japanese officials hope that Mr Shevardnadze will make a gesture by saying that Moscow is ready to pull out the military forces it has stationed on the islands since 1978.

In return, Japan has been putting the final touches to a package of "intellectual co-operation" to send financial experts to Moscow to help overhaul their banking system and to establish a commodities market. Soviet industrialists and economists will also be invited to Japan to see how capitalism works at full throttle.

Signs of strain behind the scene as two Koreas meet

From SIMON WARNER IN SEOUL

A MOOD of optimism and hope, but little excitement, was evident as the prime minister of North Korea spent his first night in Seoul yesterday before talks with his South Korean counterpart.

The two men smiled and greeted each other warmly at the start of the unprecedented four-day visit which, it is hoped, will be the key to ending four decades of military and political confrontation. But there were already signs of strain behind the facade.

Yon Hyong Muk, prime minister of North Korea, and the six other delegates, who are accompanied by 83 North Korean journalists and support staff, announced after their arrival that they wanted to meet dissidents and visit the families of two clergymen and a student in jail for visiting the North without permission from Seoul. There was no response from the South Koreans, who are certain to be displeased at the request, and have done their best to prevent any contact between the North Korean government and activists in the south.

While little of substance is expected from the four-day visit, Seoul sees it as historic simply because it is happening, and suggests that the North has recognised the existence of a legitimate government in the South for the first time. It is the first time a delegation from one Korea has visited the other for talks since a accident while being driven from the border into the city. A motorist cut in front of the limousine and the two cars di-

rectly behind in the motorcade ploughed into him. Two delegates suffered only slight injuries. Mr Yon was unhurt.

A member of the North Korean entourage with perhaps more real power than Mr Yon, whose position as prime minister is largely ceremonial, is said to be Rim Chun Gil, the vice-chairman of the Committee for Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland. Mr Rim, who is not one of the seven delegates to the talks but is

expected to be largely running the show from behind the scenes, was trying to decide last night how to deal with an unexpected dilemma: whether to meet a South Korean woman who claims she is his sister and fled from the North just before the Korean war.

The North Koreans, who are occupying the top five floors at one of Korea's most luxurious hotels, spent their first evening at a dinner given by Mr Kang and watching a film about Korea's treasures.

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Growing American exodus to the sun

From SUSAN ELLICOTT
IN WASHINGTON

THE first draft of America's latest official portrait has revealed a greater than expected decline in population across the rural heartland during the 1980s as people turned their backs on the once mighty industrial cities of the Northeast and Midwest and headed for the sun.

Former locomotives of industrial might, including Chicago, Philadelphia and Detroit, have lost people to rapidly expanding suburbs and thriving communities around the sun belt, the West coast and Southwest.

Gradually, according to preliminary figures released by the US government after its 1990 census, California has emerged as a mini-America, encapsulating all the national trends in immigration, expansion in high-technology industries and surge in services catering for Americans' growing leisure and business needs.

The new population figures, expected to cause 19 congressional seats among the nation's 435 to change hands between states, have already led to quibbling from disgruntled city and state officials, since they will significantly change the voting powers of several large states. Congress, California is likely to receive seven new seats, while New York could lose three, leaving California the most powerful state in the land with 12 per cent of the total. In both states, Democrats currently outnumber Republicans on Capitol Hill.

Some cities are pressing for recounts, since Washington uses the statistics to calculate its spending on state programmes. "The Missing" scoffed the *New York Post* on a front page last week, showing a cluster of faceless silhouettes in front of Manhattan's skyline. "Census couldn't find one million New Yorkers." Across the country, officials are blaming the calculated declines in their cities' populations on faulty counting, lack of co-operation from building supervisors and lying tenants, many of whom illegally sublet their apartments.

From the wheat plains of North Dakota to the Mississippi delta, Americans are mourning the rural decline over the past decade of a country that prides itself on being the world's breadbasket. "It clearly means there was a greater degree of out-migration than had been expected," said Calvin Beale, a demographer at the Department of Agriculture. "Basically, it is economic."

Others are grieving over the flight of the middle classes from cities to sprawling suburbs in search of jobs and affordable housing. Many are also saddened by America's growing homogeneity. "The Old West is dead," said Alan Heslop, a professor of government. "The Old West has been killed off by these statistics."

The census showed that the rise in population to 250 million over the past decade was due to a flow of between seven million and nine million immigrants, illegal and legal, mainly from Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

It is unclear in the build-up to this year's mid-term congressional elections what impact on politics their arrival will have.

Labour offers New Zealand a new image

From RICHARD LONG IN WELLINGTON



Determined campaigner: Michael Moore addressing a Labour party meeting before becoming New Zealand's prime minister

MICHAEL Moore, New Zealand's minister for external relations and trade, yesterday became the country's third prime minister in just over a year after Geoffrey Palmer resigned to give the Labour party a better chance in the October 27 general elections.

Mr Moore, aged 41, who had fought a determined campaign for the leadership as the government became demoralised by its deteriorating opinion poll ratings, is one of the few cabinet members from a working-class background. While he has emphasised the value of the welfare state in recent speeches, he indicated after his election yesterday that there would be no shift in the country's economic policy.

Mr Moore said he got the job because he was a better communicator than Mr Palmer. Helen Clark, the deputy prime minister, who switched her support to Mr Moore, said: "The evidence was there that Mr Palmer could not do the job that Mr Moore could do as a communicator."

But soon after Mr Palmer's resignation yesterday, the latest poll showed there had already been a sharp upturn in Labour's standing. While still well behind the National party's lead of 44 per cent, a Gallup poll showed Labour had gained 9 per cent in two weeks with 26 per cent of the vote by last weekend. A continuation of this trend would have closed the gap by polling day.

Mr Palmer will serve as minister for the environment, outside the cabinet, and will stand down at the election. A former law professor, he said he could return to an academic career.

Mr Moore, criticised as being mercurial and all things to all people, defies political categorisation. While he preaches the welfare state, he has been a member of a cabinet which has carried out radical economic reforms and privatised state assets.

While he had the backing of the party's left wing for his leadership bid, he is the only member of his government to have had a meeting with a high-ranking member of the United States administration since relations chilled in 1985 as a result of Labour's anti-nuclear policy.

Mr Moore started work as a printer, became an Auckland Trades Council member at 17 and was elected the country's youngest-ever MP at the age of 23. After losing his seat he had a long and ultimately successful battle with cancer before returning to parliament in 1979.

Militants' decrees stir up resentment in Kashmir

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
IN SRINAGAR

A PILE of typed and handwritten statements from Kashmir's 75 militant organisations arrives every day at the Urdu-language *Srinagar Times* giving warnings, instructions and political commentary. They are published in full, under duress, in the next day's paper.

G. M. Soofi, the editor, says he receives threatening letters or telephone calls if he fails to comply. "We publish at the point of a gun. The same is true for every newspaper in the valley. This is further proof that Kashmir has become a grave and that we are all the walking dead."

All Kashmir's main newspapers were forced to close for six weeks earlier this year after the government accused them of being mouthpieces for Muslim separatists. Certainly, their support for

Kashmiri self-determination is hardly muted, conveyed in a daily deluge of anti-Indian news and comment. The press was allowed to reopen when the authorities became embarrassed by international criticism of censorship.

Apart from the BBC World Service, Kashmiris have no access to independent news about the strife around them. The press in both India and Pakistan is biased and chauvinistic. Indian newspapers, once banned from the valley by militant organisations, are again circulating because of public demands for news, however incomplete. This kind of public pressure marks a change; the oppressive power of the militants over daily life is increasingly resented, despite overwhelming support for their cause.

More and more women are defying the insistence that they wear the *burqa*; people complain about the closure of video shops

and cinemas, which militants said were decadent; there is resentment over the ban on "un-Islamic" bars and liquor shops; and there is despair that the fight is turning into a long haul, despite the militants' promise of victory by the end of last month.

The better-off are angered by a ban on private cars ordered by the militants, who said the vehicles were being used by security forces. Taxi drivers were allowed to return to the streets after protesting that they had lost their only livelihood.

The security forces have inflicted severe blows on the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, the biggest of the militant organisations, whose leadership is in jail. Its nominal leader, the Pakistani-based Ammanullah Khan, is not a credible figure in the valley.

A smaller group, Hizbul Mujahideen, has moved to the forefront, assuming the leadership of a new

hotel and another punched a gaping hole in the Broadway hotel.

Militant leaders said in interviews their tactics would be to attack security forces inside their camps, in order to reduce the danger of civilian casualties. Launching attacks from villages would be discouraged because of reprisals by security forces.

Farooq Ahmad, aged 28, a leader of the militant Islamic Student League, said the uprising would intensify during the harsh Kashmiri winter. "During the snows we will carry more arms across the border, because the Indians will be bogged down in weather they do not understand. No matter how deep the snow, or how cold the temperature, we can get through the mountain passes on foot. There will be a winter onslaught. That is why it is relatively quiet at the moment."

THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: THE MIDDLE EAST

Crucial steps to giving Saddam the ladder for his climb-down

By MARC WELLER

WHETHER buying a washing machine or sealing the fate of a small country in a peace treaty, it pays to read the small print in any agreement. In business as well as in the arena of international politics, devious details are easily overlooked. And if that happens, undesirable results are bound to follow. The three main options for peace in the Gulf therefore need to be examined with some care.

First, there are the enforcers, who are reluctant to discuss anything until President Saddam Hussein has conceded defeat and withdrawn unconditionally from Kuwait in accordance with mandatory United Nations resolutions. Washington is the undisputed leader of this camp, closely followed by Britain.

Secondly, there are those who specialise in the manufacture of fig-leaves to provide a graceful

way out for the dictator in Baghdad, once he sees the error of his ways. Javier Pérez de Cuellar, UN Secretary-General, has highlighted this strategy with his trip to Amman over the weekend.

Finally, there are the appeasers who can count Yasser Arafat, Colonel Muammar Gadaffi and, apparently, King Husain of Jordan among their ranks. They hope that Iraq will accept a face-saving compromise in exchange for substantial rewards. All three schools of thought need to address a number of crucial points:

□ **The withdrawal from Kuwait.** Mr Arafat and Colonel Gadaffi agree that a withdrawal of Iraqi troops has to be achieved, but they would leave Kuwait in a state of semi-sovereignty. A new government would have to be to President Saddam's liking. Baghdad would "co-ordinate" the economic policy of both states, such as oil pricing and export quotas.

Kuwait would make regular payments into the Iraqi treasury and it would not be allowed to ally itself with outside powers.

This proposal fails foul of binding security council resolutions which demand the re-establishment of Kuwait's full sovereignty. Legally, there simply is no way around the complete and unconditional withdrawal. Even Señor Pérez de Cuellar will be unable to provide a fig-leaf large enough to cover this fact.

□ **Kuwaiti constitutional reform.** President Saddam boasts that he has done the Kuwaiti population a great service by removing the al-Sabah family from the throne. The UN Security Council, on the other hand, has recognised the exiled emir as the "authority of the legitimate government of Kuwait", and demands his restoration to power. Still, there is some room for compromise, although it would require the far-sighted con-

sent from the Kuwaiti sheiks. The al-Sabah family could celebrate its return to Kuwait with constitutional reforms aimed at genuine democratisation.

The Kuwaiti parliament, which was disbanded in 1986, would embrace such proposals enthusiastically once it has been reconstituted. In the current climate of national unity, created by opposition to Iraq, which transcends distinctions of class and political

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because President Saddam experiences a change of heart. Although he would therefore lose if he submits the dispute to judicial settlement, a judgment could not be expected for a year or two; and he would therefore not have to renounce his claims and admit defeat immediately.

□ **Peace forced and "foreign" troops.**

Kuwait, and this includes the disputed territories, could certainly be protected by international peace keepers during and after the withdrawal. But the disabling split among the member states of the Arab League demonstrates that the troops would need to be controlled by the UN security council to provide an effective guarantee for Kuwait's security. Of course, the force could be composed primarily of units drawn from Muslim countries.

Most Arab leaders also pay lip service to the removal of "foreign"

troops from the region. While the deployment of US and British troops would naturally be reduced once tensions subside, it would not be possible to force them out in a peace deal. Only the Arab host countries can terminate their stay.

□ **The lifting of sanctions.** Whatever solution is adopted, the Security Council will wish to dispatch a special representative to the region. As soon as other misunderstandings have been cleared up, such as the enforced presence of foreigners in Iraq, sanctions could be lifted quickly.

Overall, giving peace a chance does not have to signal that aggression bears sweet fruits. It is possible to provide President Saddam with a ladder for his climb-down, although he will have to stretch pretty far to reach it.

Marc Weller is a researcher in international law at Queen's College, Cambridge.

COST OF WAR
French told of possible 100,000 death tollFrom PHILIP JACOBSON
IN PARIS

Jean-Pierre Chevénement, the French defence minister, yesterday broke the polite diplomatic silence about the potential human cost of war in the Gulf by predicting that it could claim at least 100,000 lives.

He also warned the West that it was a dangerous illusion to believe that full-scale combat with Iraq could somehow be kept at arm's length.

Although M Chevénement has been in trouble with his own government over his somewhat equivocal position as a founder member of the Franco-Iraqi Friendship Association, his trenchant remarks bring a sombre note of reality into a debate that so far has been curiously bloodless in France.

"I believe fervently in diplomacy and the objective of reaching a peaceful solution of this issue," he said. "But people who talk gaily about a nice clean conflict 5,000 kilometres from our frontiers have not thought about the consequences that may follow."

According to M Chevénement, there is no truth in rumours that his frank expressed reservations about French support for the Bush administration's policies towards Iraq have brought him under pressure to resign. "The French people have a right to expect their minister of defence to take a detached view of events. I apply the policy that has been adopted by the government and there is no divergence whatever between my own position and that of the president of the republic."

Meanwhile, a senior official in the Palestine Liberation Organisation has claimed in the French press that President Saddam Hussein is prepared to negotiate a peaceful withdrawal from Kuwait. According to Abu Iyad, second in command to Yasser Arafat, the Iraqi leader would welcome a chance to negotiate a retreat with the West, provided he received guarantees about protection from attack by US forces in the Gulf.

Saddam wants a negotiated settlement, but not one that looks like a surrender on his part," Abu Iyad told *Liberation*. The Iraqi leader is not convinced that, even if he withdraws and releases his Western hostages, he will escape a devastating attack by the rapidly increasing American military machine in the region.

Abu Iyad was asked if the threat by Iraqi officials that any attack on Iraq would result in a terrorist offensive against the West should be taken seriously. "Without any doubt," he said. "And more terrible than ever before."

In M Chevénement's view, the UN resolutions calling for the immediate evacuation of Kuwait and liberation of the hostages do not provide justification for "smashing" the Saddam regime.

• **NICOSIA:** Iraq immediately denied that it was willing to withdraw from most of Kuwait in return for assurances that the United States would not attack. (Reuters report). "Kuwait is a vital part of Iraq," the official Iraqi news agency said. "It is the branch that has returned to the origin for ever."



Crown Prince Hassan is escorted by officers as he visits Asian refugees in the no man's land between Jordan and Iraq on Monday

INTERCEPTION
US marines seize Iraqi tea freighter

AN AMERICAN warship yesterday carried out the first interdiction of an Iraqi freighter, which had been tracked by British intelligence from Sri Lanka, where it had taken on a cargo of tea (Andrew McEwen writes from Jeddah).

The USS Goldsborough challenged the freighter Zanobia as it approached the Gulf. It refused to stop and was boarded by US forces. It is not clear how this was done, but it would be normal to lower Marines on to the ship from helicopters. No resistance was offered, and the freighter was escorted into Muscat.

British intelligence had alerted London and Washington to the vessel's departure from Sri Lanka two weeks ago. It is believed that it was tracked by British Nimrod aircraft from Oman.

It was the first vessel to be prevented from delivering goods to Iraq since the UN embargo.

The Zanobia was one of several Iraqi tea freighters which had been waiting in Sri Lanka for some time for permission to leave port.

Sources said Iraq had put pressure on Colombo to release them.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said here last night: "We have been watching the Zanobia for a long time; there is a regular tea traffic. They (the Sri Lankan authorities) decided to let this one sail and stop all following ones."

The government believes that the interdiction has closed one of the few remaining loopholes in the maritime blockade.

• **NEWARK:** US Customs said yesterday that they had detained the Al-Wattyah, a Kuwaiti container ship, and were examining the cargo to see if anything was destined for Iraq. (AP)

It has not been pointless or self-indulgent. Mr Hurd has spoken well and sensibly at every stop, conveying an impression of authority and sound judgement. Lieutenant-Colonel Alastair Campbell, son of a former defence secretary, was "scrambled from the grouse moors" (his own words) to become military liaison officer. The aim is to give confidence that the Qatari forces could withstand a chemical attack, but it might prove counter-productive. While the British equipment is said to be better in hot weather than American versions, it remains too heavy for the desert.

In the comparative cool of Taif, where the exiled Kuwaiti government has set up its headquarters in

HURD GULF TRIP

Cook's tour stiffens resolve and wears out aircraft tyres

From ANDREW MC EWEN IN JEDDAH

a mountain-top hotel, he told Sheikh Jaber Ahmed al-Sabah, the emir: "Sometimes the friend who acts quickly is the real friend."

Britain's image as a reliable friend of the Gulf had been most in need of brushing up in Qatar, where French influence has become dominant. Mr Hurd's visit, coming after that of Alan Clark, minister for defence procurement, helped make amends.

The foreign secretary is to brief the cabinet tomorrow on the mood of the Gulf states. He may reasonably claim to have reassured those who needed reassurance and stiffened the resolve of those whose resolve needed stiffening, which was his aim.

Cartoonists might see him as Hurd of the Desert in a *dishdashah* and dagger, with sand on his sandals. It has been a Cook's tour of Gulf palaces, opulent or vulgar according to taste, with a side trip to Yemen. A final stop in Jordan is planned for today.

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Mr Hurd was among old friends in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Oman, where Britain is seen as a benign protector. Sheikh Zayed Bin Sul-

tan-an-Nahayan, president of the United Arab Emirates, said recently that anyone who claimed that Britain had colonised his country was a liar. This seemed a gesture of goodwill.

British officials said there was full agreement with the Gulf rulers that President Saddam Hussein should be humiliated and that no face-saving solution should be allowed. None of his interlocutors confirmed to the press, however, that they held this view.

Yousef bin Alawi, foreign minister of Oman, who is well respected by British observers, argued in favour of a traditional Arab compromise. He believed that after a few more weeks of sanctions the Iraqi leader would be prepared to withdraw, in return for an adjustment to the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border close to the Rumaila oilfield and possibly the right to use the islands of Babylonia and Warba.

The caution and politeness of Gulf rulers could easily lead a British politician, even one of Mr Hurd's experience, to suppose that they were in agreement. Mr Alawi clearly was not.

From Oman, which has progressed from the third world to the first in 15 years, Mr Hurd flew to Yemen, the poorest country on the Saudi Arabian peninsula. The hotel used by his party suffered two power cuts in five hours. Yemen's poverty and political turbulence help explain its sympathy for Iraq, but it became clear during Mr Hurd's visit that Sanaa cannot afford to give Baghdad anything but token support.

They hold responsible for their loss of livelihoods and life savings. But even in Kuwait, there are divisions, with reports that some Palestinians have joined Kuwaiti resistance groups, while others have joined Iraq's army.

One Palestinian woman, Noha, aged 26, who lived in Kuwait all her life until she fled last week, said that Palestinian women were praying with Kuwaitis for the Iraqi leader's assassination. "I never felt it was home, but it was a good life and the Iraqis have ruined it," said Noha, who was manageress of the Body Shop in Kuwait. She said she was furious with Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, for siding with Iraq. "It has caused a terrible backlash against Palestinians in the Gulf. If ever the emir returns, I believe he will give us back our savings, but then he'll throw us out because of Arafat."

HIGH-TECH WEAPONS

Deadly Scud chemical missiles threaten allies

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SINCE the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the American, British, Saudi and other Arab forces lined up against President Saddam Hussein have had to face up to a potential chemical threat from Soviet Scud B ballistic missiles.

The Scud B is 25 years old this year, and Iraq has between 350 and 400 of them. The Scuds B has an extended range of between 375 and 406 miles.

There are estimated to be at least 10 launching systems for the renamed al-Hussein missile. Neither the Scud B nor the al-Hussein missiles offer Iraq much potential for an effective chemical attack. Iraqi officials have claimed the al-

Hussein, which flies further than the Scud B, can land within 500 yards of its target, double the accuracy of the Scud B. But that can still hardly be described as an accurate weapon system, especially if the target is an armoured unit on the move.

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The league has moved quickly to announce a new acting chief, Assad al-Assad, aged 70, a Lebanese who was senior assistant secretary-general. League sources said that foreign ministers hoped to elect a secretary-general at a meeting scheduled for Tunis from September 17 to 19. But it will be difficult finding a new head, and it could take years for the 45-year-

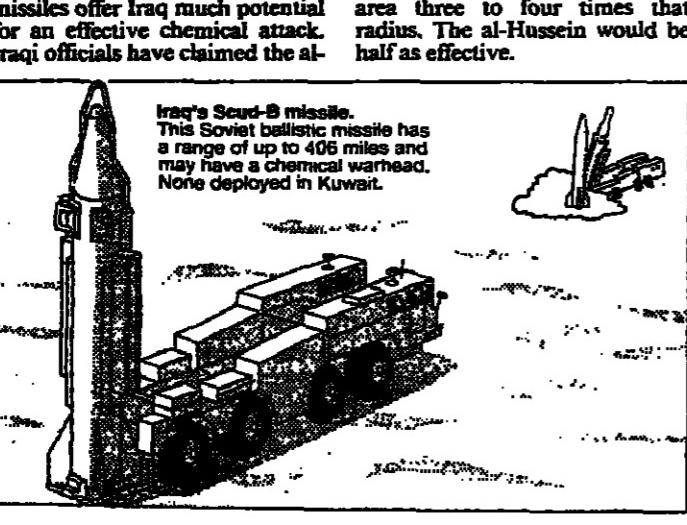
old organisation to re-establish its credibility as a forum for settling inter-Arab disputes.

"The Arab League has demonstrably failed in the greatest crisis it's ever faced," said Mr Pridhom. "I don't think it's got a future," he added.

Arab diplomats said Mr Klibi, who is 66 tomorrow, was angered by criticism from Syria and Saudi Arabia, which it were trying to turn the league into "an American tool". It was Iraq, ironically, a former ally of Egypt in the Arab Co-operation Council, that pushed for Cairo's return to the formal return to the fold of Egypt, its most populous state.

Iraq, meanwhile, blames Mr Klibi's resignation on Egypt and Saudi Arabia, which it were trying to turn the league into "an American tool". It was Iraq, ironically, a former ally of Egypt in the Arab Co-operation Council, that pushed for Cairo's return to the formal return to the fold of Egypt, its most populous state.

The Palestinians are perhaps the most divided over the conflict. Those in the Israeli occupied territories have rallied behind Iraq, while a growing number of Palestinians in Kuwait are said to be hoping for the overthrow of President Saddam Hussein, whom



they hold responsible for their loss of livelihoods and life savings. But even in Kuwait, there are divisions, with reports that some Palestinians have joined Kuwaiti resistance groups, while others have joined Iraq's army.

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for siding with Iraq. "It has caused a terrible backlash against Palestinians in the Gulf. If ever the emir returns, I believe he will give us back our savings, but then he'll throw us out because of Arafat."

THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE

Grateful Bush to forgive Egypt its £3bn military debt

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush has decided to forgive Egypt its entire \$7 billion (£3.75 billion) military debt in recognition of President Mubarak's key role in rallying Arab opposition to Iraq, the White House announced yesterday.

The move, which must be approved by Congress, was both "a symbol of our appreciation for the leadership he has provided" and compensation for the financial cost of the Gulf conflict to Egypt, said Martin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary. He denied there was any *quid pro quo*, such as basing B-52 bombers in Egypt or the dispatch of more Egyptian troops to Saudi Arabia.

Israel has indicated that it would seek similar treatment were Egypt's military debt to be forgiven. Mr Fitzwater said requests for debt forgiveness from other nations would be considered, but he did not consider this a precedent.

In another development, President Bush intervened in a potentially serious dispute between the US military and the Saudi government over the right of American forces to launch offensive operations against Iraq without the permission of their Saudi hosts.

Reports here yesterday also

disclosed that the US has secretly deployed combat aircraft in a number of Gulf nations, including Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates – a significant development given the extreme sensitivity of these states to US military presence on their soil.

James Baker, the US Secretary of State, meanwhile, prepared to go before the House foreign affairs committee yesterday afternoon, the first top official to face detailed questioning by a congressional committee on the administration's handling of the Gulf conflict since Iraq invaded Kuwait on August 2.

Nicholas Brady, the treasury secretary, earlier left for Asia to seek greater support from nations like Japan and South Korea. Mr Baker leaves for Europe tomorrow on a similar mission.

Reflecting a strongly held view in Congress, Richard Gephardt, the House Democratic leader, said on his return from a fact-finding visit to the Gulf on Monday night that the US deserved greater financial support from other countries and that its Nato allies should commit ground troops to the region.

The Washington Post re-

ported that Mr Bush called Bandar bin Sultan, the Saudi ambassador, to the White House late last week after Norman Schwarzkopf, the US military commander in Saudi Arabia, strongly objected to an interview by Khalid bin Sultan, his Saudi counterpart, that King Fahd's approval would be required before US troops based in his kingdom could mount offensive operations against Iraq.

Mr Bush reportedly relayed US military fears that such a requirement could leave American forces hamstrung in certain situations, while the ambassador claimed that US forces had been invited into the kingdom on the clear understanding that their role was defensive.

Officials said the issue was deferred, but not resolved, with the White House emphasising that the strategy of giving the trade embargo time to work precluded a military offensive for the time being.

US and Saudi officials told *The New York Times* that several Gulf nations had quietly accepted US combat aircraft to help defend Saudi Arabia because the kingdom's airfields were now full.

Letters, page 11



Thirsty work: A soldier of the US 82nd Airborne Division has his hands full as he stocks up with some of the thousands of cans of locally made Coca-Cola given away from a trailer to counter the desert heat at his barracks in Saudi Arabia yesterday

MOSCOW

Kremlin seeking an overall peace accord in region

From MARY DEEVSKY IN MOSCOW

As President Gorbachev's new press spokesman tried yesterday to dispel the impression that Moscow was a reluctant participant in Sunday's mini-summit in Helsinki, his foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, said the meeting would be "a major milestone on the road to resolving the Gulf crisis". He indicated that the Soviet leader would be taking wide-ranging proposals that could provide a basis for a comprehensive Middle East settlement and include Soviet recognition of Israel.

Vitali Ignatenko emphasised that Mr Gorbachev attached great importance to the Helsinki meeting, which he saw as a "follow-up to discussions at Malta and Camp David". He said the Soviet leader would arrive in the Finnish capital on Saturday evening and return to Moscow late on Sunday.

Although the agenda has been described as unstruc-

tured, Mr Ignatenko said that Moscow was "prepared to discuss ways of intensifying UN activity to ease tension in the Gulf". Mr Shevardnadze, opening an international conference on Asia and the Pacific in Vladivostok held firmly to the official Soviet line of "no surrender to Iraqi aggression, but no use of military force either". He said there was no question of Moscow accepting any resolution of the current Gulf conflict "that would fall short of restoring the sovereignty, territorial integrity and legitimate government of Kuwait".

Hoping that Moscow would aim for the withdrawal of all forces, including probably US forces, from the zone of conflict, he said: "It is essential to pursue our objective through non-military means and in a way that would remove the military presence of other countries."

One of the proposals

would have the Iraqi troops in Kuwait replaced by a UN peace-keeping force and the extra-regional military presence by an inter-Arab troop contingent," he said.

Returning to the old Soviet proposal for an international conference to resolve the whole Middle East problem, he suggested that Israeli participation "could exert a positive influence on the overall situation in the Middle East and on efforts to defuse the crisis in the Persian Gulf".

"For its part the Soviet Union would not leave without response an Israeli move along these lines and might take a fresh look at the issue of Soviet-Israeli relations." The two countries had had no diplomatic relations since 1967, but have set up commercial offices in each other's capitals with talk of direct flights between Moscow and Tel Aviv. The emigration of Soviet Jews reached a record level in August.

While Israel, and probably Washington, may be impressed by Mr Shevardnadze's overture, it is likely to be regarded more kindly in Iraq. President Saddam's first "initiative" included proposals that the Gulf crisis should be solved in the framework of Middle East problems generally.

Mr Fitzwater said he expected the summit to provide "an even stronger bond of unified opposition to (President) Saddam" and offered "an important opportunity for both leaders to assess super-power interests in the post-Cold War period".

He said Mr Bush and Mr Gorbachev would spend much of Sunday's meeting discussing events in the Gulf.

ASIAN GAMES

Peking wants invader and invaded to play

From AGENCIE FRANCE-PRESSE IN PEKING

ORGANISERS want both Iraq and Kuwait to attend the Asian Games and are playing down a boycott threat over the Gulf confrontation.

All 38 member countries and territories of the Olympic Council of Asia, which controls the games, have been invited to attend. However, no list of participating nations has been completed for the games, from September 22 to October 7.

Peking is waiting, powerlessly, for an opinion poll of council members on whether to bar Iraq in an attempt to

There are no Kuwaiti ath-

letes in the Iraqi games team.

TUC CONGRESS

Kinnock says UN must back use of military force

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MILITARY action against President Saddam Hussein of Iraq must have the authority of the United Nations, because his defeat must be a victory for the world community.

The Labour leader told the Trades Union Congress annual conference in Blackpool yesterday that it had been right to respond to Iraqi aggression with UN sanctions and a blockade, and with the commitment of multinational forces.

Unrelenting pressure must be sustained under the terms of UN resolutions, he said. "And if force is necessary to implement the policy, that too should have the authority of the UN." Mr Kinnock's remarks were clear confirmation that the government will face domestic opposition if it backs America in an independent strike against Iraq.

Margaret Thatcher's contention that the UN Charter authorises military action without further recourse to the UN is causing misgivings among her political opponents which may surface in the debate starting in Parliament tomorrow.

Mr Kinnock said the sudden and brutal invasion of Kuwait must continue to attract unreserved condemnation and implacable opposition. However, UN authority

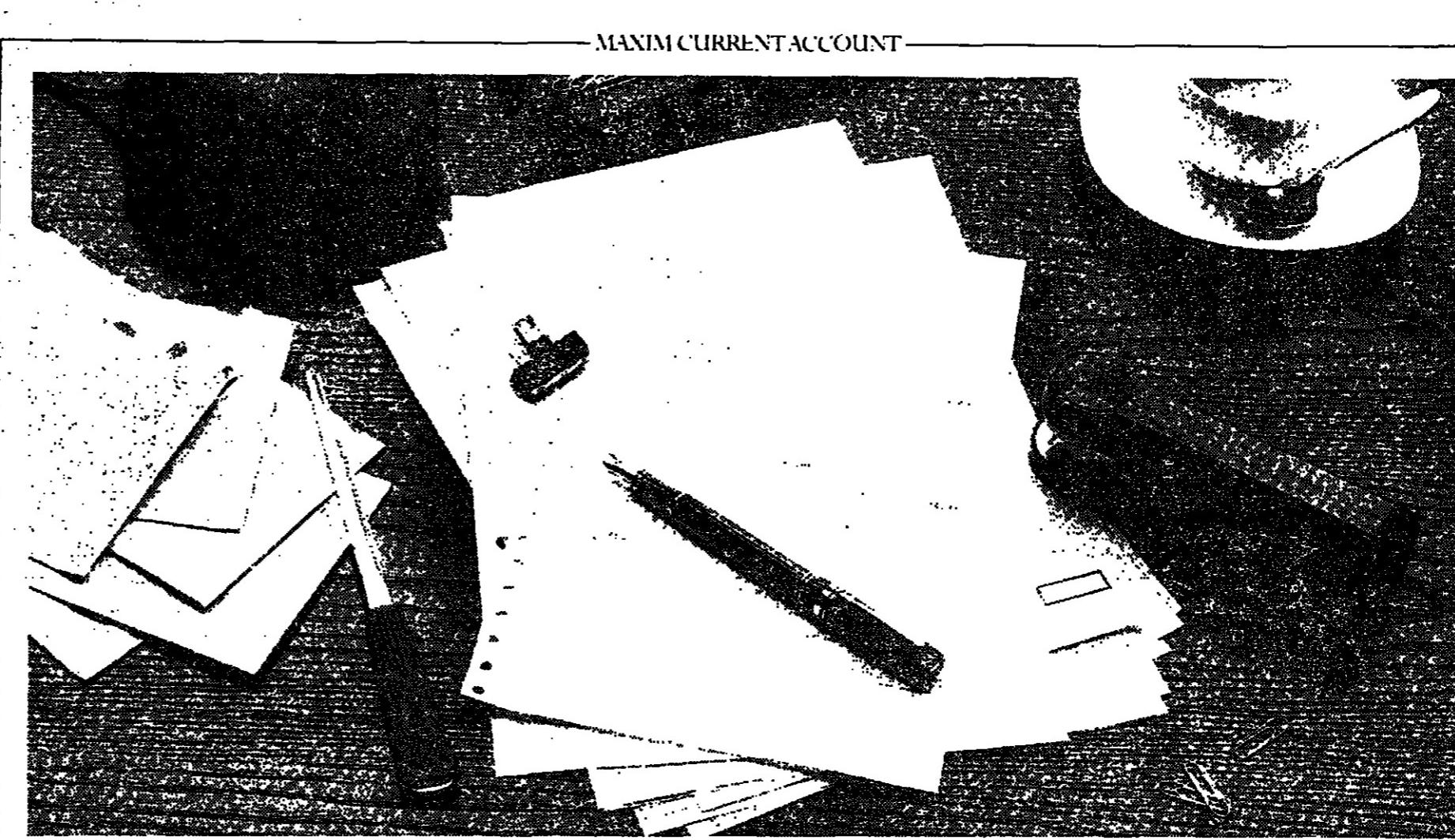
for the use of force was a matter not of sentiment, but of strategic necessity.

"Saddam Hussein has challenged the world community. His defeat must be a victory for the world community. If the outcome of this crisis is to be enduring stability in the region ... and to provide no benefit for Saddam Hussein, not even some sort of gain for his reputation in the Arab world, it must be clear to all that action is taken with the authority of the United Nations."

Mr Kinnock said this must be clear to President Saddam, who must get out of Kuwait, release all hostages and get no spoils from his aggression. "And clear, too, to any regime any time, anywhere, that tries to emulate the actions of Saddam Hussein that they will face the same determination to ensure that aggression will not pay."

David Blunkett, Labour's local government spokesman, said yesterday that the Gulf conflict would increase poll tax bills. He said oil price increases would add at least £27 million to the fuel costs of local authorities. The government must take account of this in its grant distribution next year or more increases in tax bills would be inevitable.

Martin Jacques, page 10



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This fragile Gulf accord

Martin Jacques

Tomorrow's parliamentary debate on the Gulf will surely underline the remarkable political unanimity in the British response so far. From the outset, the government and Labour have pursued an almost identical approach. The reason is twofold. First, and quite rightly, Labour has recognised, like Mrs Thatcher, that Saddam Hussein's aggression cannot go unheeded. If he succeeds, much worse might follow, and not only in the Middle East. That is why Labour has backed the UN resolutions, the American actions, and the government's decision to send warships and aircraft.

The other factor may be secondary, but is not insignificant. The Labour leadership is anxious to minimise the distance between itself and Mrs Thatcher. It wants to avoid a "Gulf factor" which would allow the prime minister to bask in patriotic glory while Labour is cast into outer darkness.

Labour's sensitivity on this score is obvious. The memory of the Falklands is receding, but at times like this still vivid. And there is a lingering feeling — largely, though not exclusively, a product of the Eighties — that Labour is weak on defence. Mr Kinnock has spent much of the last three years trying to dispel this idea; he is hardly going to allow a straightforward issue like the Gulf to get in his way now.

But underlying the unanimity is another factor. The Gulf is the first great confrontation of the post-cold-war era. In little more than a year, the landscape of post-war international relations has been transformed. Previously, the conflict between East and West, between opposing ideological systems, was the framework for domestic political divisions and arguments, both here and elsewhere. All that has gone. Suddenly the ideological divide has been removed from international relations. The old left-right polarity has lost much of its force.

This is why the voice of the "anti-war" left, led by Tony Benn, remains weak. Knee-jerk anti-Americanism no longer has the same force; nor does it counterpart, turning a blind eye to the indiscretions of Third World dictators. We now live in a far more complex world. Of course, Labour always stood unambiguously on the western side of the cold war cleavage, but it embraced many who refused to go the whole hog.

One of the most impressive features of the American response to the Gulf crisis has been its determination from the outset to establish a global consensus aimed at isolating Saddam Hussein. It sought Soviet backing for the initial UN resolution; it tried to establish the widest possible military presence in the Gulf,

and it has carefully stayed within the boundaries of UN legitimacy.

This matters, not just for the Gulf, but for the character of the post-cold-war international order. Yet one can perceive two tendencies in the Gulf confrontation, both here and in America. One is the Bush response, to date careful, diligent, always aimed at international consensus. The other response sees in the Gulf, after the trauma of 1989, the opportunity for America to assert its status as the one, military superpower. Henry Kissinger speaks for this position and so up to a point, does Mrs Thatcher, when she refers to the US as the "world's policeman".

Many people are preoccupied instead by a slim volume of retrospective prose written more than ten years ago, which has caused intellectual writhings for the second time in less than half a century on the subjects of guilt, responsibility and the right to cast the first stone.

The source of this outbreak of national soul-searching is an auto-biographical work by East Germany's most renowned writer, Christa Wolf, entitled *Was bleibt?* ("What remains"), in which she recounts how she was spied on by the Stasi in 1979. This she has in common with 6 million other East Germans, whose habits, contacts and misdemeanours figure in the secret police files now under lock and key in the state archives.

Frau Wolf was one of those who

inspired the tentative opposition movement long before last autumn's quiet revolution, but she agreed to publish this account only months after all threats to her safety and standard of living were removed. Prominent critics in the influential feuilletons of the West German papers now accuse her of fellow-travelling and remind their readers that she stayed in the Communist Party even while mounting temperate campaigns of support for artists and writers victimised by the Honecker regime. Her defenders, meanwhile, say her works are critical accounts of life under socialism, and point to her stirring speeches last November.

The debate which began with conflicting book reviews has developed into a clash of titans. Günter Grass, who is an expert on the subject of German guilt (having produced a panoply of novels on the subject) has leapt to her defence. He says that well-lunched literary hacks, who have been insulated from difficult moral decisions by the privilege of life in a wealthy Western democracy, have no right to point the finger at the writers from the East who produced impressive works of literature under the strictures of dictatorship.

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...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

CONTINUING our serialisation of Lord Yu's diaries. In this extract, he tells how the cabinet came under great stress at the last election, the pressure of fighting the campaign greatly interfering with the vital task of writing their private diaries by the publishers' deadline:

May 10, 1987: "I don't know what I'd do without you, David." The prime minister whispered as we were about to go into cabinet. Then she lowered her voice still further and hissed, "But whatever you do, don't tell Norman I said that." The words lodged in my brain long enough for me to draw out my notebook and Parker from my pocket to jot them down for posterity. "We sat around the cabinet table. Everyone seemed to be smiling to themselves and filling in their diaries. I happened to glance over Norman's shoulder to see what he was writing. It was: 'I don't know what I'd do without you, Norman, but whatever you do, don't tell David I said that.' Disappointed, I looked the other way, managing to catch sight of what Geoffrey was writing. It was: 'I don't know what I'd do without you, Geoffrey, but whatever you do, don't tell Willie I said that.'

May 15, 1987: "A few crucial words about the future of our country," announced the prime minister at our meeting today. Few of us had the time to look up. The election campaign has been so hectic that most of us were taking a well-earned opportunity to bring our diaries up to date. The prime minister noisily cleared her throat and banged her gavel on the table to attract our attention. "Silly me, but I can never remember," said Willie, briefly looking up from his diary, "does 'crucial' have an 's' or a 'c', and does anyone know the date? Thanks awfully, too kind."

May 17, 1987: The polls look gloomy. Norman Fowler was down in the mouth. "No one's going to buy my autobiography if we're in opposition," he confided. "Cheer up," I said, slapping him on the back, "no one's going to buy it if we're in power either." I asked him what he planned to call it. "I thought about that for some time before it suddenly hit me that it should

be called something marvellously bold." Norman Fowler is pretty snappy, don't you think?" "Too forgettable," I advised, sympathetically. "Why not call it something catchy yet appropriate, like 'No-one Fowler'?" He seemed grateful.

May 19, 1987: Today the prime minister called for a change of strategy. "I do hope you'll beg my pardon," said Willie, "but that with a 'j'?" The prime minister declared that she was determined to sharpen up the scruffier members of her cabinet. "Look at those cuffs, Kenneth!" she said to Ken Clarke. "What have you got on them?" Ken looked crestfallen as we all gazed in horror at his ink-stained cuffs. "It's my diary, prime minister," he said, "handier than lugging a notebook around, and my tailor assures me these cuffs are fully compatible with all leading brands of computer printers."

May 25, 1987: Our pollsters tell us that things are looking decidedly shaky. Norman Tebbit seemed out of sorts. He told me he was disillusioned with the election and has even stopped writing his diary. I held him by the lapels and gave him a good talking-to. "Norman," I said, "Norman, how much are your diaries worth? How much will they be worth if we lose this election? You'll be broke, I'll be broke, the whole publishing industry will be broke! It's your diary's future and my diary's future and the future of every diary reader in this flaming country! Do you really want them to have to read the cabinet diaries of Gerald Kaufman or John Prescott? Well, do you?" When I had finished, he asked if he could borrow my pen, took out his diary and began to write. I knew then that we would win.

May 30, 1987: I asked a cabinet colleague how his election diary was going. "Much better," he said, "since I cancelled my election address to keep it up to date." "Show a little family colour in," I advised him. "Readers love it." A busy man, he asked me if by any chance I could remember the names of his wife and children. If any, I told him to ask Central Office, they have that sort of information at their fingertips. In the political diary publishing game, these little human details are all important.

Anne McElvoy on the Eastern reprimand against those who went along with communism

Germans with a new burden of guilt

EAST GERMANY'S economy is in tatters. Unemployment is spiralling upwards, and the progress of German unity has had to be accelerated to an ungainly gallop to prevent this unhappy relic of a state collapsing into anarchy. But to attend one of the more cultured dinner-parties in Germany these days is to discover that the exigencies of *Tagespolitik* have been relegated to the status of a mere *hors d'oeuvre*.

Many people are preoccupied instead by a slim volume of retrospective prose written more than ten years ago, which has caused intellectual writhings for the second time in less than half a century on the subjects of guilt, responsibility and the right to cast the first stone.

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"Pity the land that has no heroes," cries the student in Brecht's *Galileo* on discovering that his mentor is a coward. East Germany would dearly like to produce a few heroes to march into the annals of history; but, alas, that is not how it was. The quiet revolution was a timid, bloodless affair: its prime movers were softly-spoken intellectuals, whose demands were not for the heads of their oppressors but for "open dialogue". Who remembers the serious Jens Reich, or the mousey Bärbel Bohley now?

This is not the fault of the reformers alone, nor of Christa Wolf for tolerating a regime in the East under the censor, or were the true heroes those who headed for the exiled literary colony in Hamburg? Was the fault all with the Stasi and Erich Honecker, or do East Germans now exaggerate their suffering to excuse their own docility? What of the West German Social Democrats, who embraced the communists of the East as allies? What about Chancellor Kohl, who greeted Erich Honecker with a red carpet and military honours in Bonn?

She and other writers now face their greatest challenge as Heine asked, if one is used to the censor, how does one write when he has gone? Honest writers will not avoid some painful examination of their past self-deceptions, but this is a necessary process of recovery and growth.

Perhaps because West German politics has become such a boring, consensual affair, the public loves a good, long-winded row conducted with spleen in the newspapers. This one is turning into the literary equivalent of the *Historikerstreit* of two years ago, when eminent professors scuffled over the correct way to chronicle the Nazi years.

But the more undercurrent of the debate is about the need to apportion blame. Is it enough to blame Christa Wolf for tolerating a regime because she believed in a system? Was she right to remain in the East under the censor, or were the true heroes those who headed for the exiled literary colony in Hamburg? Was the fault all with the Stasi and Erich Honecker, or do East Germans now exaggerate their suffering to excuse their own docility? What of the West German Social Democrats, who embraced the communists of the East as allies? What about Chancellor Kohl, who greeted Erich Honecker with a red carpet and military honours in Bonn?

In the years to come, there will be more quarrels over the moral issues, and many more novels about guilt will be written in Germany.

The unions need Kinnock more than he needs them

Labour's relationship with the unions which founded and sustain it has been summed up recently in Neil Kinnock's phrase "Fairness, not favours", and in the words of John Edmonds of the GMB: "Influence, not power". The significance is their similarity: these days, either man could have used either phrase.

Things used to be very different. When Labour was last in power, what the unions did ruled. When a union like the TGWU wanted a piece of legislation, it was passed. When a union wanted a dispute settled over beer and sandwiches at No 10, it was No longer. The results of that unequal relationship were the strikes of the winter of discontent in 1978-9. Labour's election defeat and the ushering in of the Thatcher years.

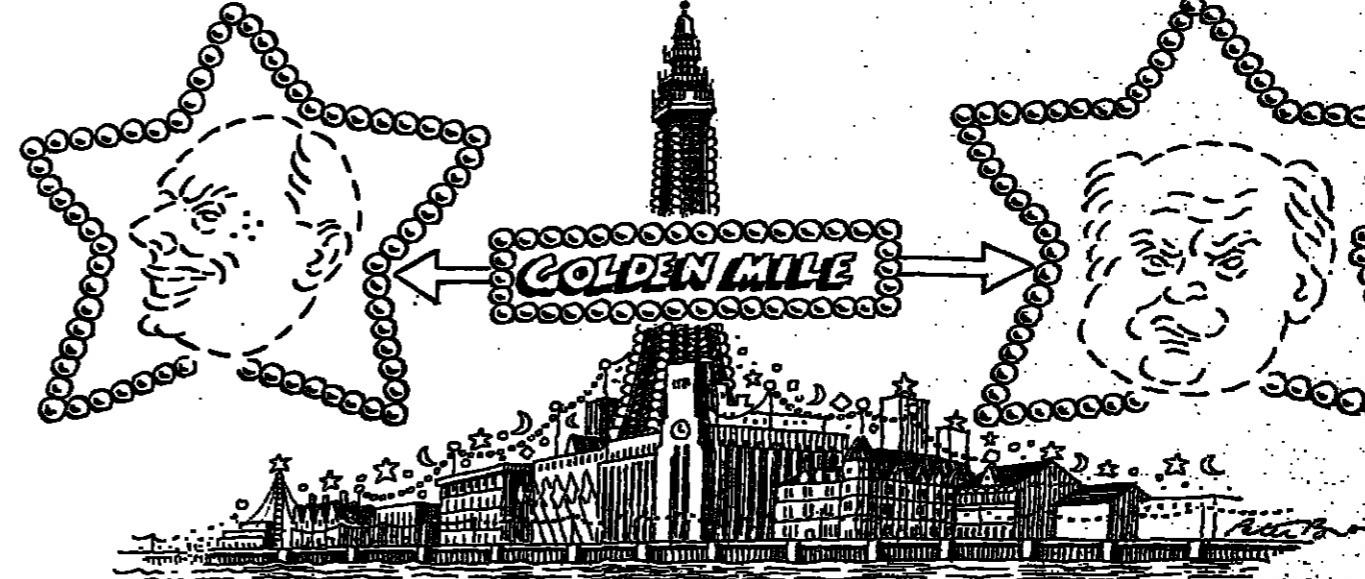
In the early 1980s, little changed. Hard though it is to believe now, few in either the Labour party or the unions thought the Conservative government would last more than one term. Labour's second defeat, in 1983, forced radical reassessments by the whole movement. The unions became more pragmatic and less political, while the Labour party elected the realist Neil Kinnock as its leader.

The Labour party is strongly and deeply rooted in the unions. But the relationship is not constant or immune to change. Generally, the unions have served Labour well over the years. These roots give the party strength and solidarity, income and organisation. But in various degrees they also cause it pain and trouble.

When general elections come round, the unions — or at least the handful which are the principal Labour paymasters such as the TGWU, the GMB and Nume — have to delve into their coffers, which are now under strain as membership continues to fall.

Although Labour can never compete financially with the Conservatives, these unions do put Labour's show on the electoral road.

Union funding does of course leave the party open to Conservative attacks like that by the employment secretary, Michael Howard, this week (only the latest in a long line), but it is hard



With nowhere else for the TUC to go, Philip Bassett reports on a paymaster no longer calling the tune

to imagine Labour functioning without it. In this sense, as is repeated endlessly at regional and constituency level, the union link is hugely beneficial to Labour.

But the damage done to the party in 1979 was so great that when Mr Kinnock was elected leader, reshaping the relationship was a vital task. Not his first — he had other boils to lance first, such as Militant — but after the miners' strike, after gradually securing control of the party's executive, largely with the help of the union representatives on it, he had to cause it pain and trouble.

What he did, he did quietly and gradually: distancing himself from the coterie of union leaders, seeing that their names were removed from the lists of party platform speakers in the 1987 election, but formally ending the regular meetings of the 1970s-style TUC/Labour Party Liaison Committee, letting his sharp-suited aides make clear in private not only that Labour could do without the unions, but that it might do better for itself in the process.

The party, rather than the

unions, began to call the shots. Some close to Kinnock realised that since the unions had nowhere else to go, there was no reason to do things on their terms. Instead, the unions could do things on terms established by the party leadership.

The party had to be careful, though, for it still needed the unions' money and power. This year's structural changes in the party are typical of the careful approach. Using the unions' own voting strength, the net effect of the changes will be to reduce union power in the constituencies and to reduce the power of the block votes at party conferences.

Yet the leadership was determined to achieve this without yielding power to constituency activists, who are often unrepresentative.

Kinnock's detractors have often charged him with breaking the party's links with the unions;

indeed, some of his advisers have urged him to do just that. Instead, he is reshaping the relationship. As he does so, power is moving from the trade union leaders to the party leader.

The relationship is no longer a matter of money for you, preferential treatment for us. Mr Kinnock's message to the unions is that their best chance of advantage lies in success for the party. He is urging them to stick by Labour and do what the party says, so that they will be well placed if Labour wins power. He will not accept a shopping list of demands. Nor does he consider himself in thrall to the unions. He will be grateful for support, but he is making no promises. Will it work? Can this new equilibrium be sustained? The crucial ques-

tion is who wins the next general election. If Labour wins, its implicit promise is that this relationship will flourish — though not like that of the 1970s.

If Labour loses, of course, all bets are off. Most people in the party believe that Neil Kinnock's own future as party leader would be in doubt, and he might be the first to ask that question, though he is not much of a quitter. If he were to fall — or be pushed — onto his sword, then a whole range of policies, including the relationship with the unions, would be thoroughly re-examined. Depending on which wing of the party provided the new leader, Kinnock's work might be the basis for the future or might be rejected outright.

Perhaps the most graphic encapsulation of the present relationship came this week from Tony Blair, the party's employment spokesman. As Arthur Scargill roared from the conference room against Labour's new union law policies, Mr Blair could only just suppress his famous grin. How lucky he was: he had got his policy through — and been opposed by Arthur Scargill into the bargain.

The author, BBC TV labour correspondent, joins The Times as industrial editor this month.

Denis Mack Smith. In Italy and its Monarchs, recently published in Rome, he claims that its tales of royal skulduggery and lechery have for the first time revealed the true nature of the Italian kings to the Italian people. The monarchy has been protected from criticism for 150 years, he says.

Largely because of Mack Smith's book, the Italians have shelved plans to bring back from Alexandria the remains of Victor Emmanuel III, who abdicated in 1946, and Umberto II, who briefly succeeded him and is buried in France. "There is also a constitutional problem," says Mack Smith. "The 1946 constitution offered that no male heir to the house of Savoy can return to Italy. Whether this should be interpreted as applying also to their remains is the subject of fierce debate. Royalists would like a full-blown ceremony at the Pantheon in Rome, where previous kings are buried. "The old boys would parade and there would be a hell of a fuss," says Mack Smith. With cool academic blood flowing in his veins, Mack Smith believes a quiet ceremony in Piedmont would be more seemly.

Voice of the people

Peter Ackroyd's new biography of Charles Dickens — which has had mixed reviews — has sparked the first scholarly attempt to resolve the question of how Dickens spoke.

While other eminent Victorians such as Tennyson just made it into the era of recording, Dickens was about 20 years too early, so the timbre of the great man's voice was lost to posterity.

Ackroyd says, "I did a lot of research and deduced that the English historian

before the opening, Tucker was suddenly faced with a shortage of cornstarch as four American owners pulled out.

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

SNAKES AND HEDGEHOGS

Boris Yeltsin's demand for the heads of the Soviet prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov, and his government presents President Gorbachev with the kind of straight public choice he abhors. Mr Gorbachev has only himself to blame for his predicament. His preference for handling the economy by round-about methods, exemplified in the economically illiterate concept of the "planned market", has been disastrous. For weeks, Mr Yeltsin has been saying that the Soviet government had lost the confidence of the people. Last month, Mr Ryzhkov even offered to serve as scapegoat. By hesitating, Mr Gorbachev has invited this embarrassing challenge to his authority.

At immediate issue are two rival plans for the economic reconstruction of the Soviet Union and the transition to a market economy. One is based on a fast-track "500 days" dash for the marketplace devised by Mr Yeltsin's economic advisers, the other on Mr Ryzhkov's gradualist plans, faithful to central control. True to form, Mr Gorbachev wants to take the "best elements" of both. Mr Yeltsin asserts that they can no more be mated than can "a snake with a hedgehog".

Secure in his elected position as head of the Russian Federation, Mr Yeltsin is calling on the Soviet president to make a complete break not only with the command economy, but with his preferred style of government. The irony is that Mr Gorbachev has gone seven-eighths of the way, setting up a joint commission to work on the "500 days" programme, which he has rechristened the Shatalin plan after one of his own advisers. But he has refused to recognise that the logical consequence of adopting the plan would be shedding Mr Ryzhkov.

Mr Yeltsin cannot lose. If Mr Gorbachev stalls, the Russian Federation will press ahead with his programme for switching to a market economy without bothering to reach agreement with the central government. Fortune favours the bold: Mr Yeltsin, already the most popular politician in the Soviet Union, would confirm his reputation for setting the pace while the Kremlin prevaricates.

Mr Gorbachev might seem to have every-

thing to gain by sacrificing Mr Ryzhkov, whose prescriptions have nobody's support, in favour of a working alliance with Mr Yeltsin. His reluctance to be drawn into what he has called "the luxury of a major reshuffle" is, however, due to more than personal rivalry and the shock of being on the receiving end of an ultimatum. The confrontation over economic policy is integrally linked with negotiations over the future distribution of power (and assets) between the centre and the 15 republics. At issue is the shape of the Union.

So far, Mr Gorbachev has taken a maximalist position on central control, not only of foreign and defence policy (which are less in dispute) but of macro-economic policy. His immediate response to Mr Yeltsin's ultimatum has been to appoint three trusted advisers to oversee sensitive areas of the economy, underlining his disinclination to delegate real responsibility to the republics. He cannot afford a lengthy stand-off, if the fissiparous tendencies in the Union are to be contained.

Mr Yeltsin's "500 programme" is also maximalist. The plan (which Mr Yeltsin insists is valid for all republics) would make a reality of the Russian Federation's declaration of economic sovereignty. The Russian parliament would set the annual budget, control credit and money supply, regulate prices within a programme of gradual liberalisation and legislate for private ownership of farms, houses and state enterprises.

If the central government is to retain a role, Mr Gorbachev needs to make these ideas his own. Then he could exploit decentralisation of economic policy as a tool against the central bureaucracy which he has repeatedly accused of obstructing reforms, and as the cement of a "union treaty". Mr Ryzhkov's departure could be used to make a fresh start — particularly were a new government to include non-communists. There is no sign that Mr Gorbachev is ready for that yet, but he has seldom shut his ears when opportunity knocks. Mr Yeltsin is leading a peaceful revolution. The only question is, can the Kremlin establish a claim to partnership?

LAMB WARS

Angry French farmers, intent on inflicting the consequences of their own inefficiency on British producers and French consumers — indeed on anyone but themselves — have resorted once more to vandalism and arson. Not willing to compete fairly in the market, their aim is to stop British lamb ever reaching that market place by various criminal acts, of which the most shameful has been the burning of live British sheep, the most dangerous an open riot. The French authorities, as usual in these affairs, do just enough to uphold the law — not always too enthusiastically — while giving the farmers enough room to make their political point.

In economic terms, the French tend to be fair-weather farmers, happy when the market is stable and there is enough business — or enough subsidy — to go round; but among the first to suffer the effect of fluctuations. British and Irish sheep farmers, for instance, have swiftly responded to a demand for top-quality lamb in France which French producers cannot meet. English orchard owners once had the same trouble with French apples.

Lamb prices have fallen across Europe by some ten per cent, forced down in part by a combination of drought in France and over-production elsewhere. The CAP price stabilising mechanisms — agreed in the farm policy reform package of February 1988 — have failed to cure the vice of over-production. Food mountains supposed then to have been eliminated, are returning. EC beef stocks have now reached 320,000 tonnes and there is a "butter molchill" growing daily.

What is lost on the French farmers is that, while their survival has long depended on the EC common agricultural policy, the logical consequence of that policy is free movement in food, at least within the bounds of the EC cartel. The policy has for them been a gravy train, funded by European taxpayers, from which they help themselves when it suits them.

For Britain, participation in the CAP is expensive, but the cost is deemed to be worth it, because of the access it gives to a wider market, of which France is part. To deny Welsh sheep

farmers the right to sell their meat in France is to make a mockery of the CAP and to invite a return to national protectionism.

To that extent there is sense in the argument being used by some of the Welsh victims of the French tactics — that if the French are allowed to engage in protectionism (by force if not by law), then why should the Welsh not be able to compete on equal terms with other EC meat producers, for instance the Irish beef farmer with a surplus on his hands because of the Gulf conflict? French protectionism-by-violence, if not stamped on, threatens to undermine the CAP house of cards.

There is a dose of chauvinism about the attitudes of French farmers generally, an attempt to manipulate French public opinion to believe that Welsh lamb on the dinner table is unpatriotic, as it puts French sheep farmers out of business. On the other hand, plundering the CAP for every centime it is worth, while defying the CAP's basic principles, is presumably conduct worthy of *la gloire*. If Welsh farmers go out of business, or if the British feel they have been ripped off by French exploitation of the CAP, then too bad.

The French farmers want greater subsidies from the funds of the CAP by means of artificial price maintenance, which means in this case taking Welsh lamb off the market and putting it into cold store. The EC should be moving in the opposite direction, away from the policies of subsidy towards a free market in agriculture, along the lines agreed at the Houston economic summit in July. While insisting that the French authorities guarantee safe passage for Welsh sheepmeat, Britain should be pressing in the EC for the winding down of the whole farming subsidy regime.

The French would then have to face a choice: to subject their farmers to the painful slimming now being experienced by British farmers or to see the repatriation of French farm policy to Paris, with France's withdrawal from the CAP and so its collapse. This would recognise that farming always was an unnatural industry for a nation to surrender to supranational authority.

FROM THE TOTNES ASHES

The disastrous fire which yesterday destroyed a group of ancient buildings in the centre of Totnes in Devon will have dismayed lovers of English townscape. Totnes was rightly described by Pevsner as "one of the most rewarding small towns in England". The sequence of Fore Street and the High Street, with their Tudor and Jacobean buildings and arcades and the Eastgate house straddling the road, is vernacular architecture at its most enjoyable. The burning of so beautiful a street is a blow to architectural history as grievous as were the recent fires at Hampton Court, York Minster and Uppark.

Other European countries have no qualms about rebuilding old towns destroyed by fire or war. Warsaw, Dusseldorf and Tours all testify to the restorers' art. They are facsimiles of the work of their original creators. In Britain, an intense debate still surrounds such restoration. Many said that Georgian Uppark should have been left unrepainted, a gaunt ruin and monument to the elemental force of fire. What the fates destroy should be left to archaeology. We do not rebuild Stonehenge or Ludlow Castle, so why rebuild their 17th or 18th-century successors? Some within the Royal Institute of British Architects even suggested that Hampton Court should be left gaping and blackened, as "true to history". As a Turkish explosion wrecked the Parthenon — who would dare restore that? — so Wren's masterpiece at Hampton should have been left alone with its memories.

Such argument shows how silly the purists can be when unconstrained by common sense. Almost all the great "medieval" cathedrals of

Europe have been partly rebuilt with 19th or 20th century materials — and would be in ruins had they not been. Little of the fabric of most "Tudor" buildings actually dates from before the 19th century. We repair and restore as time goes by. Even if we alter, this does not impede our enjoyment of the art of the past enshrined in buildings. The key to architectural conservation lies in appearance, in design, in the sense of proportion and scale deriving from earlier ages when the requirements of buildings and towns were different.

Today's craftsmen possess the skills to recreate the work of their predecessors. At Hampton Court, at York Minster and now at Uppark, skills equal to those of the original workmen are on show. The restoration of such art may not rank as a triumph of the imagination; there are opportunities for such triumphs elsewhere. But restoration is a triumph of skilful and sensitive workmanship, paying for it testifies to public respect for the past as enshrined in art.

Some will say that Totnes is now ripe for 20th-century redevelopment, that the fire has cleared the way for a new town centre, as Wren suggested the old City of London be replanned after the Great Fire of London. This is nonsense. The heart of Totnes — preferably cleared of modern traffic — is survival of national importance. The collapsed Eastgate should be rebuilt, its famous clock and cupola should be restored and the 16th and 17th-century facades about it recreated to their former glory. Modern town centres are two a penny. Totnes is unique. It must rise again from its ashes.

Resolution 51 as grounds for multi-national force

From Dr David Owen, MP for Plymouth Devonport (Social Democrat)

Sir, Your editorial of September 4, "No soft options" over the invasion of Kuwait, is correct in all its particulars. Under article 51 of the UN Charter the legitimate government of Kuwait or the Saudi Arabian government would be fully within their rights in their self-defence to ask the US, Egypt, the UK, Syria and the other nations in the multi-national deterrent force to help to remove Iraqi forces from Kuwait if they judged the Security Council measures were not proving sufficient to ensure their security.

We in Britain relied on article 51 to justify retaking the Falkland Islands by force. We did so when we rightly, as it has since turned out, judged that General Galtieri was using the UN and the diplomatic peace process to stall an Argentinian withdrawal which he had no intention of carrying out.

If the USSR and China were prepared to lift their right to veto the multi-national force being given the authorisation of the UN to eject the Iraqis from Kuwait, few would be more delighted than President Bush. But it is expecting a lot for President Gorbachev to go this far at such an early stage in the post-Cold War climate of cooperation in the Security Council.

Diplomacy, sanctions, and the deterrent force with its capacity to act offensively will, in combination, hopefully pressure Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait; also to accept international inspection of all Iraqi nuclear installations and potential gas-manufacturing capacity as well as a negotiated reduction in the levels of its armed forces. But just as we could not keep our Task Force indefinitely at sea off the Falklands, so the multi-national force in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf will not be able to stay indefinitely on full alert.

Sanctions alone, without the deterrent force on the ground in Saudi Arabia, will never succeed. Politicians who pretend otherwise are either naive or are simply hedging their bets, preparing to wile the end but to deny the means.

There is always a temptation in Opposition to cover your party against an eventual use of force leading to casualties, a prolonged battle, or even defeat. It is a temptation to avoid.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID OWEN,
House of Commons.

From Mr Robert Spooner

Sir, In deciding policy to deal with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, it is truly astonishing to find Mr Ashdown stating that "if further action is required, it is up to the Security Council to decide this, not an individual member or members" (report, September 4).

I recall the strong and justified words of Mr Ashdown following the Peking massacre in June, 1989, and his trenchant views on the future of Hong Kong. Is Mr Ashdown content that the Chinese government should have a veto over any action to defend vital Western interests in the Gulf?

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT SPOONER,
49 Albermarle Street, W1.

Alternative energy

From Mr David Kui

Sir, Your leading article, "Going with the wind" (August 24), was timely and drew attention to a major gap in the Government's energy policies. Can anyone still doubt that it is time to establish a separate department for the promotion of alternative energy? Is the failure up to now to do so an indication of the strangulation exercised by the providers of conventional fuels?

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD LEIGH-PEMBERTON,
Longcot House,
Faringdon,
Oxfordshire.
September 3.

From Mrs Stephanie Dee

Sir, I should like to praise the extraordinary bravery of Jacqueline Joyce, the British woman who quietly asked Saddam Hus-

sein, face to face, why he was using children as pawns, and so achieved more than any tabloid leader-writer, diplomat or member of the government.

When the crisis is over, we shall see striding away from Buckingham Palace those decorated for directing fire-power and manpower. It would be pleasant to think that some recognition will also be given to a female civilian who showed such amazing courage, not from a position of strength, but one of terrifying vulnerability, even helplessness.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHANIE DEE,
12 Lower Meddon Street,
Bideford, Devon.
August 30.

From Mr Reggie Boyle

Sir, Saddam Hussein, despite protestations to the contrary, is of course demanding monetary ransom for his Western hostages. He is demanding to be allowed to keep Kuwait and the fact that he has taken it already does not in any way change the old-fashioned nature of the kidnapping.

Yours sincerely,
REGGIE BOYLE,
3-1-21 Moto Azabu,
Minato-Ku,
Tokyo 106, Japan.
September 3.

From Mr Peter Edwards

Sir, Your leader of August 24 missed the main reason why only two commercial windfarmers (of which we are one) are likely to proceed.

We have experienced a very frustrating year, bouncing around our planning application around the district council, who cannot be expected to have any technical knowledge or experience of windfarming.

Unless national guidelines are laid down and such applications are considered by county councils or even regional planning bodies, similar planning delay will result for every windfarm application.

Yours faithfully,
PETER EDWARDS (Director),
Windelectric Ltd.,
Deli,
Delabole, Cornwall.
August 27.

From Mr E. J. Gasson

Sir, Philip Howard, in his criticism of journalistic superlatives ("Superlativism at its worst", August 24) has rather gone over the top, and should look to his comprehension of our language.

Take, for example, "best-selling car of all time". Possible alternatives: "best-selling car" ("This year? Since? Its inception? Or what? Or "best-selling car of all" (ditto)).

And again: "Modern-day history". The alternative, "modern history" has, at least to me, quite a

different meaning: it terminated at the time our school text books were written, at about the end of Victoria's reign, if I remember rightly, whereas "modern-day history" is presumably still in the making.

If Mr Howard wants to improve journalistic semantics, let him get rid of the word "arguably": there's a linguistic passenger, if ever there was one.

Yours sincerely,
E. J. GASSON,
Lintay,
Long Sutton,
Langport, Somerset.

From Lord Orr-Ewing and Lord Wyatt of Weeford

Sir, Referring to proposals to clarify the impartiality requirements in the Broadcasting Bill for which we and others have been campaigning, your media correspondent reports (August 27) that programme-makers will interrogate Home Office officials about which existing programmes would be censored under an amendment to extend the code to programmes expressing a personal view.

It is generally accepted that the privileged duopoly position of the national broadcasting media confers upon them the obligation to treat politically controversial subjects fairly; hence the concept of *due impartiality* which has long

been established in legislation. Yet senior broadcasters continue to raise bogus scares that the proposed changes would require pro-

grammes in defence of the genocidal Pol Pot, when in reality due impartiality has always meant — and will continue to mean — the fair representation of the main opposing viewpoints on matters of contention within the democratic political spectrum.

No programme would have to be censored. But, where programme-makers have chosen to suppress some of the main oppo-

sition arguments in a broadcast, then another programme putting the other side of the case will have to be pre-planned and presented with comparable prominence. This is already required by the IBA's own television programme guidelines, formulated in 1985 but constantly ignored.

As for "personal view" pro-

grammes, the Home Office has

confirmed that these have always

been subject to the same impar-

tiality requirements of fairness

over a series of programmes as are

any other broadcasts on conten-

tious issues.

Yours faithfully,

IAN ORR-EWING,

WYATT OF WEEFORD,

House of Lords.

August 30.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They

may be sent to a fax number —

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COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
September 4: The Princess of Wales visited the offices of Gulf Helpline, Kingsway.

Mr Patrick Jephson and Mr Richard Arbiter were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
September 4: The Duke of Kent today visited Farnborough International '90 at the Royal Aerospace Establishment, Farnborough, Hampshire, and

was met on arrival by Group Captain John Stessor (Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire).

Captain the Hon Christopher Knollys was in attendance.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent this evening attended a recital by Alfred Brendel in aid of Music in Country Churches at the Middle Temple Hall, London EC4.

Mrs Julian Tomkins and Commander Roger Walker, RN, were in attendance.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.C.K. Catarinella and Miss V.J. Knox

The engagement is announced between Peter, only son of Mrs Susan Catarinella of Haworth, Wiltshire, and Mr Claudio Catarinella of Bath, Avon, and Virginia, daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen Knox, of East Horsley, Surrey.

Sub-Lieutenant P.H. Diver, RN and Miss C.S.D. Burridge

The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Commander and Mrs H.A. Diver, of Burntisland, Fife, and Charlotte, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R.V. Burridge, Bath.

Mr S.T. Drew and Miss S.R.S. Scott

The engagement is announced between Simon (Toby), son of Mr and Mrs Michael Drew, of Warwash, Hampshire, and Suzanne, daughter of Dr and Mrs Ralph Scott, of Bury St Edmunds.

Mr R.S.H. Everett and Miss C.A. Fiennes Cox

The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr Roger Everett, of Upton Lovell, Wiltshire, and Mrs Mark Fenwick of King's Somerton, Hampshire, and Charlotte, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Fiennes Cox, of Church Oakley, Hampshire.

The Hon E.W. Fremantle and Miss S.E. Chillingworth

The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Lord and Lady Coates of Beaconsfield, London, SW1, and Sara, only daughter of Lieutenant Commander and Mrs Harry Chillingworth, of Benbridge, Isle of Wight.

Mr A.J. Grant and Miss H.J. Dawes

The engagement is announced between Andrew John, son of Mr and Mrs Ian Grant, of Balmaha, Cobham, Surrey, and Jennifer Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Maureen Dawes, of Downsview, Keymer, West Sussex.

Birthdays today

Lord Alexander of Weedon, QC, 54; Mr Malcolm Allison, football manager, 63; Miss Meg Beresford, general secretary, CND, 53; Mr Dick Clement, scriptwriter, 53; Lord Delfont, 81; Mr R.J. Dunn, managing director, Thames Television, 47; Mr David Graham, chief constable, Cheshire, 57; Dame Elizabeth Hedley-Miller, civil servant, 67; Sir Francis Loyd, former colonial officer, 74; Mr Justice Munro, 52; Mr Bob Newhart, comedian, 61; Mr William Nursaw, author and investment consultant, 87; Canon Peter Pilkington, High Master, St Paul's School, 51; Miss Jean Rankine, deputy director, British Museum, 49; Mr G.W. Tremlett, author, 51; Sir Denys Wilkinson, former vice-chancellor, Sussex University, 68; Mr Frank Verby, novelist, 74.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal will attend the Scottish Homes International Conference, Croydon, Aviemore, at 9.25, and as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will attend a council meeting at the Royal Thames Yacht Club at 4.15.

The Duke of Gloucester will visit Carlisle Cathedral Treasury and the Old Town Hall at 10.30; Alcan high dry extrusions in Wokingham at noon to mark the 50th anniversary of the company; and the Haig Enterprise Park, Whitehaven, at 2.15.

The Duke of Kent will attend a presidential deputation of the Licensed Victuallers National Homes at the Brewers' Society, Portman Square, at 11.00, and visit the Metropolitan Police Mounted Police Division's training establishment at East Molesey, at 2.45.

The Duchess of Kent will attend the film premiere of *Memphis Belle* at the Empire, Leicester Square, at 8.00 in aid of the Leonard Cheshire Memorial Fund for Disaster Relief.

Coachmakers' and Coach Harness Makers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Coachmakers' and Coach Harness Makers' Company for the ensuing year: Master: Mr Gerald Boxall; Senior Warden: Mr A.J.D. Ferguson; Junior Warden: Mr P.C.K. O'Farrell.

Reception

HM Government
Mr Michael Forsyth, Minister for Health at the Scottish Office, has last night attended a reception given by the Ministry's Government in Edinburgh Castle to mark the 4th International Aphasia Rehabilitation Congress.

Mr A.W. McConaughie and Miss S.G. Glynn-Jones

The engagement is announced between Adrian, elder son of Mr and Mrs William McConaughie of Douglas, County Antrim, and Sarah, elder daughter of the Revd and Mrs Alan Glynn-Jones, of Twickenham, Middlesex.

Mr J. Paley and Miss M.F. Maherly

The engagement is announced between son of Mr and Mrs D. Paley of Cottingham, and Freya, daughter of Dr and Mrs D.J. Maherly, of Seaton, Keighley.

Mr J.B.G. Stephenson and Miss L.H. Bulman

The engagement is announced between Jeffrey Benjamin Grainer, son of Mr Shireen Anne Stephenson of Kilmarnock, Glasgow, and of the late Mr Gerald Stephenson, and Lois Helen, daughter of Canon and Mrs Michael T.A. Bulman, of Oxford, The Rev Geoffrey Simpson officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Alexandra Bernstein, Emily and Henry Dymoke, and Edward Dymoke. Mr Giles Williams was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride.

Dr R. Morley and Miss J. Bull

The marriage took place on Saturday, August 25, at St Peter's Church, Curdridge, Hampshire, between Dr Roland Morley and Miss Jocelyn Bull.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. Dr Graham Philpot was best man.

The reception was held at home and the honeymoon will be spent in the Caribbean.

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friendship meant sharing

regardless of age, race or creed.

Children from every embassy

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Kenneth Kennedy in the USA, Chon

En-Lai in China, Khrushchev

and Gromyko in Russia, Sa-

dat in Egypt, Menzies in Aus-

tralia, Pearson in Canada

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Elizabeth Home faced all

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OBITUARIES

LADY HOME OF THE HIRSEL

Lady Home of the Hirsel, wife of Lord Home of the Hirsel, who as Sir Alec Douglas-Home was formerly Conservative prime minister, died aged 80 on September 3, following a stroke. She was born on November 6, 1909.

ELIZABETH Alington married Lord Dundas, as he then was, in 1936. For the next fifty years she was through her husband to be involved in major national and international issues from his first political assignment as parliamentary secretary to Neville Chamberlain through to his offices as foreign secretary and prime minister. This marriage of two complementary personalities made the achievements by both partners inextricable. She always shared in her husband's acknowledged statesmanship.

She was the second daughter of the Hon Hester Lyttelton and the Very Rev Cyril Alington, who was successively headmaster of Shrewsbury and Eton before becoming Dean of Durham. Her youth was lived out mainly at Eton and she later became the first woman fellow of the College.

Lord Home of the Hirsel was to write in his autobiography, *The Way The Wind Blows*: "The happiest day of my life was when I married Elizabeth and found the perfect partner, a partnership which was spent almost entirely in office." This meant that the Homes were constantly involved in major political events, starting with Chamberlain's meeting with Hitler in 1938 when Alec Douglas-Home (then Lord Dundas) was his parliamentary private secretary. For a period, while he was MP for Lanark, tuberculosis of the spine dangerously disabled him. During this time, when for long stretches he was confined to his bed, his wife gradually nursed him back to health. In the early 1950s he became minister of state at the Scottish Office and then Commonwealth secretary. He was to be foreign secretary, prime minister and subsequently foreign secretary again.

Alec Home described political service as "participation at the centre of things" and this for him included Suez, the



winds of change", Rhodesian UDI, Britain's entry into the EEC, Cuba and the Moscow test ban treaty. Elizabeth also shared her husband's travels which provided opportunities for making contacts throughout the world at all levels including the highest. Kennedy in the USA, Chon En-Lai in China, Khrushchev and Gromyko in Russia, Sadat in Egypt, Menzies in Australia, Pearson in Canada. She sustained life-long friendships with a world network through personal letters, frequently written at night using a torch-light pen so as not to disturb her sleeping husband. The content was always encouraging and discerning, written in delicate Chinese flower painting script, with an original twist to every thought and always with inimitable wit. There was never condescension because her

friendship meant sharing regardless of age, race or creed. Children from every embassy accredited to the UK enjoyed the tea parties given at Lancaster House which provided the same crackers, conjuror, balloons and sausages they would have found at a Scottish country gathering. The only added visual advantage to the hostess, who always photographed these occasions, was a majority of thin black legs in white socks.

Those who worked with Elizabeth Home soon became aware of the selflessness which enabled her to double the use of daily hours. She combined raising a family of one son and three daughters with driving her husband, responding to all who needed her help, and being ready to receive heads of state at official functions where she always appeared imperious.

The Home household hos-

pitability whether at Number

10, Lancaster House or in

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Home identify an outstanding

example of how a wife can

share her husband's

statesmanship.

THE REV KENNETH OLIVER

The Rev K.C. (Ken) Oliver, CBE, TD, army chaplain, died on August 30 aged 80. He was born on June 13, 1908.

KEN Oliver was by his preaching, example and personality a profound influence on the many who knew him in over 50 years of ministry

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

have never trusted in my health or taken pride in my work. Job 31 : 24-25. Q.N.B.

BIRTHS

AARONSON - On August 25th at The Portland Hospital, to Wendy (née Buckman) and Murray, twin daughters, Fiona Sophie.

AMBERSON - On September 1st at Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital to Fiona (née Burnell) and Clive, a daughter.

ANDREWSON - On August 30th at The Portland Hospital, to Linda, a daughter, Katherine Sarah, a sister for Jenny, with loving memories of Daniel.

BASWELL - On August 29th at American Hospital of Paris in Melrose (née Priscilla) and Michael, a son, Alexander Henry.

BONNER - On August 29th at The Portland Hospital, to Jan (née Howell) and Ian, a daughter, Katherine Sarah, a sister for Jenny, with loving memories of Daniel.

CHAPMAN - On August 22nd, Great Hospital, to Fiona (née Michael) and Michael, a beautiful daughter, Margaret.

HARRISON - On August 29th to Lynne (née Lewis) and Lewis, a son, Frederick Jameson.

HORNROCKS-BURNS - On September 4th at Harrogate to Frederick and Stuart, a daughter, Fiona Ellen, a sister for Vickoria and Emma.

HYDE - On September 4th, 1990, in Ottawa, Canada, to Diane Tsvetkov and David Hyde, their first son, Connor MacLean.

KINGSTON - On August 31st, 1990 to David and Nathalie (née) (née) John, a son, Sean Matthew David.

LAW - On September 1st to Regine (née) and Christopher, a son, Christopher Troy Alpinus.

MACLACHLAN - On August 31st at St Thomas' Hospital to David and Nell, a daughter, Natalie Alexandra, a sister for Vickoria and Elizabeth.

MARSH - On August 31st to Eric (née) and Michael, and David, a son, Ivor Alastair, a brother for Jake.

OMAHA - On August 2nd, 1990, in Changchun, China, to Peter (née) and Christopher, a son, Christopher Troy Alpinus.

PATRICK - On September 3rd, 1990, at Royal Berkshire Hospital, to Diane (née) and David Patrick, their first son, Christopher.

PEART - On August 31st, 1990 peacefully at home, Gordon, a son, Christopher, a daughter, Sophie, a sister for Natalie, and a brother for Christopher.

REED - On August 29th to Frank and Frances, three Troudoules, a son, William Frederick, a daughter, Joanne, a brother for Elizabeth.

SIMMER - On August 20th, to Mancini Hospital Hong Kong, to Fiona (née Murry) and Michael, a son, Brian Colin, a brother for Christopher.

WILSON - On August 20th to Nicola (née Newton) and Patricia (née) daughters, Emma, Charlotte and Lucy Elizabeth.

WOOD - On August 30th at The Portland Hospital, to Glyn and Glyn, a son, Ryan Townsend. A brother for Shannon.

MARRIAGES

FYFE - LOGAN - On September 3rd, 1990, Robert J.M. Fyfe youngest son of Alex and Marjorie Fyfe of Langside, Glasgow, married Alison Lillian Logan. Daughters of Altona and the Late Joseph Lenanawans of Langside.

MASON-JONES - BOND - On September 1st 1990 at St Cuthbert's Church, Newcastle upon Tyne, Christopher and Nerynne Bond, son of Mr and Mrs D Mason Jones of Abel Leeds, to Eleanor, daughter of Mr and Mrs M.A.N. Bond of Greenhead and Newcastle.

DEATHS

BELL - On September 3rd, peacefully at his home at Broomhill, on Burwash and Swansea, and buried before husband of Joyce (deceased). Father of John, a son of John, church, Terrell, at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, September 6th.

CAR BEFORE THE HORSE

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir, I fully recognize the value and potentialities of motor-cars and know how, in crowded streets as in London and Paris, horses take no more notice of them than they would of any unusual sight in a crowd; but when two of your correspondents calmly demand the entire exclusion of horses from the roads it is time that other interests than those of motorists should be asserted.

Since the establishment of county councils I have represented in that of Berkshire a district of which the main source of prosperity is what may be termed the racing industry.

In the division of Lambourn, to which I allude, and in the neighbourhood of this place, some hundreds of horses are trained and are constantly upon the roads, either on their way to the gallops or to the railway stations to fulfil engagements. Are these horses to be excluded from the roads, and is the prosperity of such districts, to say nothing of Epsom, Newmarket, to be imperilled in the interests of a limited class who choose to career about the country for a month or so in the summer at railway speed?

Again, in most country districts, except perhaps Norfolk and Suffolk, the main source of prosperity, apart from agriculture, is horsefarming. Without it, numbers of country houses would be upset and country tradesmen ruined, whilst local subscriptions would be impossible and the poor become poorer still. But in such districts dozens of horses are daily met upon the highways, either being exercised in the off-season or on their way to meets in the hunting season. Do your correspondents demand seriously that all the innumerable interests which this implies are to be sacrificed to the wishes of the motorists who rarely pays one shilling to the maintenance of the roads which he deems to appropriate?

The circular which some time ago

came to me, on August 27th, mercifully, did not reach the door of Hertfordshire County Council, or the County Council of Lancashire, or the County Council of Cheshire, or the County Council of Northamptonshire, or the County Council of Bedfordshire, or the County Council of Cambridgeshire, or the County Council of Essex, or the County Council of Suffolk, or the County Council of Norfolk, or the County Council of Lincolnshire, or the County Council of Nottinghamshire, or the County Council of Derbyshire, or the County Council of Cheshire, or the County Council of Shropshire, or the County Council of Herefordshire, or the County Council of Powys, or the County Council of Monmouthshire, or the County Council of Glamorgan, or the County Council of Neath Port Talbot, or the County Council of Pembrokeshire, or the County Council of Carmarthenshire, or the County Council of Dyfed, or the County Council of Gwynedd, or the County Council of Anglesey, or the County Council of Flintshire, or the 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MEDIA

The September song and dance

Britain's television operations are readying themselves for their autumn offensives. Essentially the prospect is one of struggle on two separate fronts, terrestrial and satellite. With satellite penetration, even with cable knock-on, still stuck around 5 per cent, the terrestrial channels can battle on much as they always have, with only the occasional protective glance over the shoulder.

The opening barrage was loosed last weekend, with BBC1 unveiling a "new" Saturday of fresh editions of *Noel Edmonds*, *Russ Abbot*, *All Creatures Great and Small* and *Alf Garnett*, topped off with *Dirty Harry*, the Clint Eastwood film. ITV chose to counter with one of the oldest bowlers in the business, Sean Connery as James Bond in *Goldfinger*, and will wheel out Bond again for the next two weeks. Eager executives consulting audience research for signs of ground gained will be told not to read too much into the first few days and weeks.

Television's habit of hitting us hard with real or supposed novelty every September is not without its critics. The audience does not settle into its established viewing pattern until the clocks go back, and days shorten. September and October are also awkwardly punctuated by competing

ritual from the TUC and the political party conferences, always likely to lower interest, if not to distract attention. This year, too, there is the wild card of the Gulf, tilting viewing in favour of news. Yet the assumption remains that he who first dares to hit the entertainment button wins.

Over the longer haul, it would seem that the two sides are fairly evenly matched. Overall, the safest bet is that summer alarms about BBC slump will die away, and that deep winter viewing will settle in the 47 per cent to 53 per cent range, with the slight margin going, as it usually does, to ITV and Channel 4 combined over BBC1 and BBC2.

Such an outcome will be a relief to the BBC as it turns its mind to a five-year battle over funding and purpose. It can expect little help from the press, and not much from fellow broadcasters. Here it is paying the price for staying mum while the government dismantled the ITV system, good points as well as bad. This week David Elstein of Thames TV sided seductively into the Peacock camp, pressing the BBC to draw its funds from optional subscription rather than a general licence. Sir Alan Peacock himself now seems stuck with BBC subscription as an *idee fixe*, ignoring evidence that shows subscription effective chiefly as an

add-on, a special charge for matter relayed by television but not originated by it — movies, sport, some performance art.

Not surprisingly, Mr Elstein failed to declare two interests. Obliging the BBC to seek funding through subscription would sharply tilt the playing-field, leaving ITV and Channel 4 as the only services sent untrammeled into virtually every home in the land. Further, any success in diverting the BBC down subscription alley lessens the chance of the BBC coming to rely on that third source of funds, advertising. As a competitor for advertising the BBC would be formidable. That point is not lost on the BBC, which is now more pro-advertising than it was when the Peacock committee first went to work. Better that to founder on the rock of subscription.

The argument about the BBC's future should in any case concentrate first on function, leaving funding until later. Are there a set of purposes that are distinctive, yet of broad appeal, touching all of the audience some of the time? And what range of resource should be brought to bear to fulfil them?

Re-definition need not be narrowing. Those who look for excellence all the time should be reminded that no cultural operation ever attains that. There will be space aplenty for the routine and workmanlike programmes, for competence as well as creativity. But it would be no bad thing if the BBC now served itself once again to begin calling junk by its proper name, and move it to the sidelines. The implicit assumption that all BBC programmes are of "quality", simply because the BBC makes them, does little to advance the cause.

Up in the skies over Britain, matters are more urgent. Sky's deleterious effect on News International's accounts can be remedied only by signing on a second large tranche of paying customers. But Sky has already made a decent dent in the market. BSB has yet to do so, and for them the pre-Christmas push is clearly crucial.

BSB starts the race nearly a million home installations adrift of Sky. If we assume that few will buy both BSB and Sky, then BSB's realistic market is correspondingly reduced. BSB's bankers will have an eye on two indicators: how quickly are installations moving ahead, and is the gap with Sky narrowing or growing wider? In the promotional battle, BSB, being second, will no doubt want to be seen to be trying harder.

BROADCAST

Brian Wenhams

Deposits in the memories bank

Edward Shelton
on the television classics that have been lost forever

Last month the National Film Archive (NFA) began recording all of the BBC's television output. A little late you might think, after 54 years, and you would be right. But the recording is timely, because television archiving in this country is in trouble. The limited archive that does exist is under threat.

The list of early television programmes the BBC did not record in the Fifties, Sixties and Seventies is a treasury of lost classics. *Juke Box Jury*, *Dr Who*, *Till Death Us Do Part*, *Sunday Night at the London Palladium*, even the studio footage of the programme showing man's first landing on the Moon, have been lost forever. Out of 430 *Dixon of Dock Green* episodes produced between 1955 and the mid-Seventies only 30 survive. Other losses include the Dennis Potter and David Mercer plays of the Sixties.

Recordings of many of these programmes would now have been valuable, commercially and historically.

Anne Hanford, head of television library services at the BBC, says: "The most significant gaps are in fiction, drama and light entertainment."

"It is not something that has taken us by surprise," Ms Hanford says. "But it is a situation that has to be very carefully planned and thought through. We hope to transfer completely in the next five years."

"The present state of the ITV companies is not certain, so they are not going to fall over themselves to invest the money if they can't reap benefits."

Adrian Figgess, traffic and library manager at Granada TV, says: "We're currently deciding what to do. We're aware of the problem, with 1992 coming up, but we will take steps to make sure our archive is protected."

Much recorded material has already proved its continuing commercial worth. Episodes of *Till Death Us Do Part* are currently being shown on BSB (not the classic black and white shows from the Sixties,



Dixon of Dock Green: only 30 episodes are left out of 430. Many other early programmes were not recorded.

which were not kept, but the colour shows from the Seventies) as are *The Goodies*, *Steptoe and Son* and early instalments of *Grange Hill*.

But many programmes cannot be screened again without contacting all the artists for permission. Most programmes could only be screened twice before they went "out of time", and further broadcasting involved completely renewing the permissions.

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Despite this, many programmes may have been saved by being recorded privately by their producers. BBC programmes may have survived because they are sold abroad.

Brian Robinson, of the NFA, says: "Things turn up; there's a lot of knocking around. A couple of lost episodes of *Dr Who* were recently found in Nigeria."

Mr Bryant is tracking down episodes of the 1967 series, *At Last the 1948 Show*, the forerunner to *Monty Python*, which featured John Cleese and the late Graham Chapman. He knows of only two episodes still extant in this country, but thinks he may have located some more abroad.

The NFA initiative with BBC material will complement the ITV and Channel 4 service already in place. For a fee, the most collectable 25 per cent of programmes (mostly drama, news and current affairs) since 1985 have been stored.

This arrangement — voluntary at the moment — might soon become law. There is a government-sponsored clause in the broadcasting bill that will make it a condition of franchise that the companies contribute to a fund held by the Independent Television Commission to commission a body (almost certainly the NFA) to handle archiving.

The NFA is lobbying for the clause to be extended to cover Channel 4 and the domestic satellite services.

But maintaining an archive is an expensive business. Ms Hanford's collection grows by thousands of titles every month, all of which have to be categorised and housed in the right environmentally controlled conditions. The library in Brentford, in London, where it is all stored employs 130 people.

"The pressure from the British Film Institute for a national television archive is very important," Ms Hanford says.

"A lot of producers are outraged about what's been lost, but if you ask them for 10 per cent of their production budget for archiving, you don't get the same response."

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The next York Festival and Mystery Plays, which are organised by an independent Board, will take place in the summer of 1992. The Board is planning to consolidate the artistic and financial success of previous festivals. The Council, which is the principal funder of the Festival, sees to establish it within the calendar of varied leisure opportunities provided for the people of York. Together the Board and the Council will seek to recruit two important appointments to take executive responsibility for the business administration and artistic programme of the 1992 Festival.

The FESTIVAL PRODUCER will be a new post established within the Council's progressive Leisure Services Department, initially on a three year contract. The postholder will be seconded to the Board to take overall responsibility for the business and organisation of the Festival.

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For an informal chat about either of these posts, call Paul Cheshire, Director of Leisure Services on 0904 613161 ext 1800 before 28 September 1990.

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MEDIA

As another launch approaches, Tim Willis reports on the crowded home design magazine market

Another monthly interior design magazine, *Metropolitan Home* — an offshoot of the eponymous American title — will be launched in Britain on September 13. But is there any more room in the market? Do their glossy photographic features have any application in real life?

Dee Nolan, the editor of the British *Metropolitan Home*, thinks so. "There is a new generation to be reached," she says.

"They are desperately in search of ideas, which they can't get from the traditional titles. But they are busy people, too, so we are going to do the legwork for them. They go shopping at Joseph and Conran, but maybe they don't know how a vase will look once it is brought back home. We are going to show how someone has used it in their own apartment."

Ms Nolan is hoping to reach 75,000 readers, aiming at young couples rather than the traditional female market, but the competition on the newsagents' shelves will be stiff.

As well as the magazine-style catalogues produced by Marks & Spencer and Laura Ashley, there are *The World of Interiors*, *House and Garden*, *Homes and Gardens*, *Elle Decoration*, *Country Homes and Interiors*, *Country Living*, *Period Living*, *Traditional Homes*, *Individual Homes*, *Ideal Home*, *House Beautiful*, *The Kitchen*, and *Kitchens*. *Bedrooms and Bathrooms*.

At the more popular end of the market, these magazines are certainly practical. *Ideal Home* not only gives step-by-step instructions on building a kitchen, for example, but provides cut-out-and-keep plans of floors and furniture on which to practise room layouts.

The glossy end, *The World of Interiors*, edited by Min Hogg, seeks to educate by example rather than diagrams. The magazine may feature the most tasteful homes most tastefully, it may have nuggets of priceless information buried in its captions and text, but its only overt concessions to practicality are a few pages of shopping and tips.

Readers who find *The World of Interiors* too grand and *Ideal Home* too pohpave previously settled with the likes of *Homes and Gardens* — because we show them rooms in which every ingredient can be bought in the shops, and copied down to the last

Is there any room in the interior?

detail", according to Amanda Evans, the editor.

But the demands of the middle market can lead to a stuffy conformity in the houses shown! The generation which grew up reading *The Face* — who have seen the style explosion in the high street, and are interested in contemporary design — must wait months until *The World of Interiors* deems a modern flat well-enough "done" to photograph, or they turn to specialist and sometimes eccentric magazines such as *Blueprint*. These people, Ms Nolan hopes, will be *Metropolitan Home's* readers.

Ms Nolan dismisses much of her competition as "passive picture books". In contrast to the expansive, calm spreads of *The World of Interiors*, she promises a busy design by Stafford Cliff. While most magazines keep people to a

minimum in their pictures ("They don't tend to look very good doing nothing in their own houses," Miss Hogg says), Ms Nolan promises happy young designer-couples on the cover.

"We are not going to say you need to be colour-coordinated right down to the last inch," Ms Nolan says. "A home is not a showpiece, it is where you live — in the garden, eating, cooking." She promises food columns, personality interviews, motoring and travel features.

Ms Nolan claims that she is "rewriting the rule book for home-interest magazines". Miss Hogg fears that she will "just get in the way — there are already too many magazines chasing the same houses". Ilsa Crawford, the editor of *Elle Decoration*, says: "It's about lifestyle, not decorating, so we are not really competing." Ms

Crawford claims her magazine, aimed at a slightly younger audience than Ms Nolan's, is at the inspirational end of the practical market, and cites as an example a recent six-page feature on how to customise a divan into a four-poster bed.

However, Ms Crawford welcomes *Metropolitan Home*.

"It can only help to increase interest in the subject. People say the British market is crowded, but it is pathetically small, compared with France.

There, as a matter of course, people buy the decorating magazines to stay abreast of new ideas." The result, she claims, is a wider range and higher quality of goods in the shops.

The way in which the successes of the Eighties design boom — among them Laura Ashley and Colefax &

&

Fowler — were influenced by the images first published by *The World of Interiors*, underlines the usefulness of the glossies. But Ms Crawford thinks that the public remains suspicious "because they have features signposted very clearly as 'practical'".

Ms Crawford, whose last job was assistant editor to Miss Hogg, says that close and frequent reading of these magazines can help readers in selecting decorating choices. And many readers would admit that magazines have taught them a lot about architecture and auctions, and provided them with mundane decorating facts, such as the way that dark-painted skirting boards, or a uniform colour scheme, or cramming in the furniture, all appear to increase the size of a small flat; and overhead lighting makes everything look gaudy.

Miss Hogg believes that the secret of her magazine is: "Even if you are not interested in hanging the curtains, it is a beautiful thing to look at." Ms Nolan says hers will be "proper journalism" and "a finger on the pulse". And they will never attract the readers of *Ideal Home* until they publish floor plans.

DENIZL MCNEILANCE



Designs for living: Dee Nolan believes there is a new generation desperately in search of ideas for the home

Green series succeeds in commercial jungle

Adrian Cowell spent a decade filming the rain forest, but is his breed facing extinction?



Adrian Cowell: "I follow the story through to the end"

Sitting in the Brazilian forests in 1984, he dreamed up the Television Trust for the Environment, which now pumps more than £500,000 of seed money a year into development films. Mr James says film-makers only have to guard against being repetitive. He wants more development issues aired in drama, music and even comedy.

Mr Cowell himself says: "My guess is that I'm a dinosaur gradually going to extinction."

All is not lost. In February 1989, 50 voluntary agencies came together in the Third World Environment and Broadcasting Trust to discuss a common response to the government's white paper on broadcasting. They focused on the threat posed to coverage of international issues. As the broadcasting bill stood until mid-July, potential applicants for ITV franchises only had to provide news and current affairs. Now, following an amendment in the Lords, they will also have to offer not only documentaries, but also educational and social action programmes.

The ecologically minded have also, belatedly, begun to realise that their programmes can compete on the open market. Cowell's *Mountains of Gold*, which dealt with the scramble for minerals in Amazonia, attracted 3.5 million viewers in December 1988. Anglia's two-hour *Survival special, Antarctica: the Last Frontier*, was watched by eight million in September 1989. While not of the *Nestor* size, these audiences are intelligent, well-heeled and can command premium advertising rates.

David Puttnam, the film producer, has pointed to the potential conflict of interests between commercial franchise operators and film-makers. Mr Cowell can take credit for one of the most promising developments on the scene.

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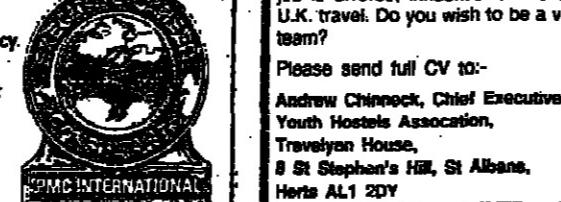
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Continued on page 28

LIFE AND TIMES

Prisoner of her conscience



Carmella LaSpada
(left) has devoted 18 years to the cause of those trapped in the crossfire of terrorism. Now, Victoria McKee reports, she is helping Gulf hostage families

Carmella LaSpada says she has put her life on hold for the past 18 years to further the interests of those who are not free to make such a choice. Now she hopes the people of Britain will lend their efforts to her latest initiative, Operation Brave Heart, and implement something along the lines of the "USA Give" programme, which offers psychological support to the families of those held in Iraq by President Saddam Hussein.

A telephone helpline has in fact now been set up for the families of British hostages by the Gulf Support Group, which received a visit in London yesterday from the Princess of Wales, and the Foreign Office is referring families requiring practical or emotional support to it. Its organisers expect to learn much from the American model.

Miss LaSpada is the founder and director of No Greater Love, a group based in Washington, DC, which offers support to the families of hostages and prisoners of war, and works to commemorate those who have died or are missing in action in the armed services, or through the actions of terrorists.

Miss LaSpada has so far established 13 annual "remembrance days" in the United States calendar, including April 25 for the eight men killed in the abortive Iran hostage rescue mission in 1980, October 7 for journalists killed while covering wars or conflicts, October 23 for victims of terrorism generally, and December 21 for victims of the terrorist bombing of Pan Am flight 103.

With only about \$10,000 (£5,250) in annual donations, mostly from trade unions, plus the voluntary service of professional people like herself, Miss LaSpada fights to keep alive the memory of British as well as American hostages, believing that, since terrorism is international, it will take a concerted international effort to combat it.

Campaigning was not intended to be a life work. "I'm still hoping to start my career in television some day," she says. "I do reporting, producing, special features. I haven't actually done any yet, but that's what I trained to do and I'm planning to do some day."

"I kept saying I'd do this for six more months, but each time I was ready to get on with my life there'd be another crisis: the Iranian hostage crisis, then the escalation of terrorism, then Beirut... There's no other organisation in the world that does what we do, otherwise I would have closed the doors long ago."

From the two rooms donated to her voluntary "non-profit, non-political" organisation by the powerful American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organisations, Miss LaSpada can keep an eye on the White House and make sure it does not ignore her.

Surrounded by pictures of hos-

tages and their families, and inspirational quotations from the Kennedys — she worked for President Kennedy when she left college — she prides herself on being as tenacious as a bull terrier once she takes up a crusade. Modesty is not noticeable among her virtues. "Many people have ideas," she says briskly, "but I implement mine."

One such, Operation Hero Flag, grants a "hero flag certificate" to the children of a dead or missing person, whose birthday is then commemorated by an American flag flown in Washington on the day. Jimmy Pyle, whose father was shot down in Southeast Asia in 1961, three months before Jimmy was born, was the first beneficiary of what might seem, to some, a meaningless ritual. However, Miss LaSpada says such rituals of remembrance are important, providing — in addition to the public recognition — constant private reinforcement.

"My main concern is for the children," Miss LaSpada says. "They feel they've been caught in a crossfire of hatred — very different from children who have lost a parent through divorce or death by natural causes. They feel very strongly that it's not fair, and that they were not prepared for this."

That is why No Greater Love is establishing links with Leslie Kern, a clinical psychologist who has organised a free "hotline" offering swift psychological help to the families of Gulf hostages. Dr Kern, who is based in Ohio, has urged Britain and other countries to set up similar networks.

She explains: "We have a free-phone number, with lines donated by the telephone companies, which will allow callers to be connected immediately with a psychologist who will, in turn, contact a relevant psychologist in the caller's area who has volunteered to help."

Miss LaSpada claims that "nearly 80 per cent of the marriages of former hostages break up when they return", but adds: "It is our experience that if the marriage was strong before the crisis it will survive — even if on a different footing."

What distinguishes a hostage crisis from more common-or-garden domestic tragedies, Dr Kern and Miss LaSpada agree, is its unexpectedness and uncertainty, which give rise to feelings of impotence and unfocused fury. "There is no preparation for it, and no resolution in sight," Dr Kern says. "It's not like a plane crash, where you mourn the tragedy and move on.

"People don't know what they're adjusting to. The threat continues, and there is also the additional factor of strong public emotion which can cause a strain, and even a stigma, on the relatives, who may be greeted by others with shock,



Caught in the media glare: freed hostage Stuart Lockwood, with his mother and the Rev. Jesse Jackson

pity and, ultimately, avoidance. "Another unique factor suffered by the families of hostages is witnessing the sometimes cruel and exploitative use of their loved ones, and all the media pressures. The children who are expected to come back from Iraq while their fathers are still held may bear an additional burden of what is known as survivor guilt because of the pain of having to leave them."

The psychology of hostages and hostage families is still a comparatively new field. "We, as therapists, are having to do a lot of learning about this very quickly," Dr Kern says, "and I think many psychologists are very anxious to be able to do something because of the tremendous feeling of impotence the current situation engenders in the country as a whole."

A number of psychologists who worked with victims of the Iran hostage crisis volunteered their help for the USA Give scheme, and Ohio State University has compiled a library of cuttings on which the volunteers can call. "Often the parent who is left Stateside will feel a need to compensate for the absence of the other parent and become a super-parent, and in the process will usually neglect her own needs. She can become so focused on the child she doesn't realise she has no support," Dr Kern says.

Miss LaSpada is now busy promoting Operation Brave Heart. "We're trying to encourage people to write to their troops in the Middle East to keep up their morale," she says. "We hope citizens of other countries who have sent troops or ships to the Gulf area will join us in sending messages of friendship and encouragement."

In Britain the Ministry of Defence says that "people began writing spontaneously to our troops in the Falklands without any organised initiative. But in order to do so you would need to obtain a BFPO — British Forces Post Office — number from the Ministry of Defence, and I'm not sure we can give one out for the Gulf at this time."

The British helpline office, which has been set up by Joanna Copley, whose sister is a hostage in Kuwait, is open from 9am to 9pm (071-430 9920), and there is an attempt to have a trained counsellor on hand in every shift of volunteers. "We will also refer people to local support groups being set up around the country," a spokeswoman says.

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GET THEM THROUGH
THE TIMES

Just in time

Down the Street to memory lane

As Ken, Deirdre and the gang approach a historic milestone, to one man it will be just another note in the archives

Ask Daran Little when he decided to join Britain's most successful television soap opera and he can pinpoint the exact moment. He was taking part in a quiz about Coronation Street on stage in a Manchester theatre and in the shadows below he caught a glimpse of Pat Phoenix, one of the show's stars.

"This glamorous actress in this gritty northern drama," he says dreamily. "I decided then that being a fan wasn't enough."

If that sounds more like the road to Damascus than Coronation Street, then you have to remember that to many people the programme is much more than the orchestrated gossip of other television soap operas. Sir John Betjeman compared it with *Pickwick Papers*. "Thank God," he said. "At half past seven tonight I shall be in

Much of it is history in the sense that it has been established in scripts over the years. Where it doesn't exist, he invents it. He has given every resident a telephone number, and the postcode, GM1 5SC, is registered with the Post Office.

Mr Little is an unlikely man for the job. For one thing, the series had been running for four years when he was born. Less forgivably, he is a southerner who never heard the poetic ring of clog on cobble. In Middlesex, he learnt to love the programme on visits to his grandmother. At the age of 17, he made his fatal pilgrimage to Manchester where he won £500 in a magazine quiz, even though he failed to identify the correct date of the death of Mavis Riley's budgie.

After taking a degree in television production, with a dissertation on you-know-what, he joined the show two years ago. He also embraces northern life off screen. With his wife and seven-month-old son, he lives in a two-up, two-down, end-terrace house in Hebden Bridge, in West Yorkshire, tucked between canal and mill.

The Street's fans miss nothing. The secret of the programme, he says, comes from the strong women characters, such as Ena Sharples, and their humour. "If her tongue had been any longer she could stave it with it." To most viewers, Coronation Street is a sooty Camelot, a myth they choose to believe. Last year more than half a million of them went round the television set; but it is at the display case that you see the true power of the illusion. Sombre-faced, they stand in silence as they contemplate the sacred relics... Deirdre's glasses, Minnie's beret, the very hat worn by Mavis when she jilted Derek. Most heart-breaking of all, spread out like a dwarf's fishing gear, Ena Sharples's hairnet. The remains of 30 years of paradise.

COLIN DUNNE
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Streetwise: Daran Little, Coronation Street's archivist

Uplifting & BRIEFLY

news

THE good news is that, from next week, a capsule collection of lingerie from around the world will be available to order 24 hours a day, by telephone or fax, from the new Belladonna catalogue. Top brands, featuring silks from France, cottons from America and towelling from Turkey, have been assembled at reasonable prices in a single colour catalogue.

The bad news is that, despite the immediacy of the ordering methods, the Belladonna catalogue promises no improvement on the 28-day delivery period of the old-style catalogues. If it is targeted at what it describes as the "smart busy woman", it has a long way to go in both style and delivery time. Prices (almost all under £30, even for nightshirts and "loungers") show that it is aimed chiefly at the popularly priced polyester market. But being able to order stockings and tights by post is undoubtedly a plus. For your catalogue, contact Belladonna, PO Box 1011, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 7YG.

Fit for work
COURSES for working women and women returners are still a boom industry. The City of London Polytechnic has announced its new Short Course Programme, which increases the topics in its women-at-work section. These include creating a corporate image, management development, career planning and how to sell yourself at interviews. Fees range from £75 (for a two-evening course) to £250 for a four-day course in management development. Details from the Short Course Unit, City of London Polytechnic, 84 Moorgate, London EC2M 6SQ (071-256 8843).

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AMBER OF ADNS

LITERATURE

Murder most phenomenal

Horrible crimes are taking place in Torquay — simulated for the benefit of an elaborate centenary tribute to the town's most celebrated daughter, Agatha Christie. Although the so-called Mystery on the English Riviera campaign does not reach its peak until September 15 (Christie's actual birthday), Tim Whitehead, director of the centenary festival, has announced that because of intense worldwide interest the event is set to become an annual fixture. "We now have a durable product which, in time," he says, "may stand alongside the Cannes Film Festival and the Montreux Jazz Festival."

Agatha Mary Clarissa Miller was an unlikely candidate to become one of the world's most popular writers — or, indeed, any sort of writer at all. In her autobiography (written between 1950 and 1965, and published posthumously in 1977) she tells of her idyllic childhood, in which she received no schooling whatsoever (not even from a governess). Although she read voraciously — flying in the face of her mother's belief that no child should do much as look at a book before the age of eight — even in her early twenties, Christie harboured no desire to become an author. "It never even entered my head," she later wrote.

In 1914, when she was 24, Christie broke off her engagement to a suitor in order to marry a young army officer named Archibald Christie. During the first world war, she worked in a dispensary in Torquay (the source of her abiding fascination with poisons); it was here she came into contact with Belgian refugees, who provided her with the inspiration to create Hercule Poirot.

Her first novel, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*, was rejected by six publishers before being brought out by John Lane in 1920; the book caused no great stir. There was another novel every year until 1926 when *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* was published to great acclaim. During the same year, Christie's mother died and her husband took up with another woman. The combined strain led to the famous vanishing act which catapulted the author into the public consciousness.

In mysterious circumstances worthy of one of her own novels, Christie booked into a Harrogate hotel under an assumed name (actually that of her husband's mistress). Her disappearance, and the subsequent discovery of her whereabouts, generated enormous interest in the woman and her books — and the Queen of Crime was born. In 1928 she divorced her husband (by whom she had a daughter) and in 1930 married the archaeologist Max Mallowan, with whom she lived for the remainder of her life.

Dame Agatha Christie (an honour bestowed five years before her death in 1976) has now become statistician's dreams with 78 crime novels, 150 short stories, four non-fictional works, six romances (under the pseudonym Mary Westmacott) and 20 plays, all amounting to cumulative worldwide sales of about two billion in more than 100 languages. Although some sources place Erie Stanley Gardner and Barbara Cartland ahead of her, Christie is generally credited with having been outsold only by the Bible and Shakespeare. Her play, *The Mousetrap*, is a source of wonder in itself, having been performed in 44 countries before an estimated audience of eight million people, while its unbroken 38-year run on the West End stage has generated over £1.5 million in royalties. All of these facts raise the question: why?

That Christie is a good read can hardly be in dispute. Her plots are often superb, and the British (along with, it would appear, the rest of the world) love a cosy murder. However, nobody has ever made great claims for her as a writer. Nor can her extraordinary appeal be credited to her strength of characterisation, for although it is true that Poirot and Miss Marple are among the most famous fictional characters of all time, each seems equally insipid, and, at best, tedious and egomaniacal. Furthermore, the rest of her cast of characters is consistently two-dimensional (the Major, the Vicar, the Spinster and so on) — a reason why, perhaps, a game of Cluedo remains an acceptable alternative to reading Christie.

Few people will bother to debate the writer's literary worth; her fans will say they have read all her books countless times, while other practitioners of the art form, such as Julian Symons and H. R. F. Keating (each of whom has a claim to be the King of Crime), tend to genuflect to the begetter of the genre, while seeking to excuse the paucity of her language (Christie does not have a single entry in the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations).



Dame Agatha Christie, whose works have been outsold only by The Bible and Shakespeare

Christie was inoffensive, uncontroversial, dependable, prolific and famous. These qualities, along with the endless television and film re-workings of her thoroughly British fireside slayings, seem sufficient to ensure enormous sales forever. Helen Ellis of Collins, Christie's publisher since 1926, says that while all 78 novels are kept in print in hardback ("largely for the libraries"), last year 750,000 paperbacks were sold in Britain alone. "This year we are aiming at a million; we are more or less there."

The Agatha Christie exhibition at the Torquay Museum is attracting large crowds. Over the next ten days there will be a season of her films, a clutch of Christie plays at the local theatre, lectures, organised murder weekends, a crime writers' conference, a centenary banquet and an appearance by the Orient Express, star of one

of her most well-known novels. "No one comes close to Christie," says Peter Spenceley, paperback fiction buyer for Hatchards. "Big sellers come and go, but for sheer staying power there is nothing, nothing like Christie. She's a phenomenon, really."

● Information about the Christie festival can be obtained from The Mystery Office, Torbay Tourist Board, Vaughan Parade, Torquay, (0803 296296).

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Key change for the Philharmonia

Richard Morrison talks to Claus Peter Flor, principal guest conductor of the Philharmonia

Yesterday's announcement that Claus Peter Flor, a 37-year-old East German, is to become principal guest conductor of the Philharmonia, will go some way towards rebuilding that orchestra's self-confidence. The essential point about Flor is that he is a name for the future. As yet he is hardly known to British concert-goers, but he has already spent six years at the helm of one of East Germany's finest orchestras, and his recordings have received glowing reviews.

That forward-looking aspect is important for an orchestra which has seen glorious times, but also shattering disappointments. Sublime heights were reached in the fifties, when classic recordings were conducted by Karajan, Giulini and Klempener. A nadir was reached after Klempener's death in 1973, then the orchestra experienced a brilliant revival when the young Riccardo Muti took charge.

The last decade, however, has been filled with problems. Concert after concert conducted by the present music director, Giuseppe Sinopoli, has been roared by the London critics. A young orchestra, including some of Britain's finest instrumentalists, must have experienced demoralisation, yet it remained remarkably loyal. Once more the dogged instinct for survival has proved to be a dominant feature of British musicianship, whether that is applied to playing a concert on too little rehearsal, or keeping an orchestra going on too little money.

Within the last year, a corner was turned — or so it seemed. The Philharmonia players were extremely optimistic about their chance of winning the Festival Hall residency, and with reasonable cause: they had undertaken much of the South Bank's most difficult concert projects in the previous two seasons. Perhaps because of this expectation, they broke with Sinopoli — which was



Outwardly dynamic, although cautious: Claus Peter Flor

professional orchestras in one city. That makes even London's problem of "too many orchestras" seem a little provincial, I think. Yet this is a wonderful chance for Berlin to become the cultural capital of the world. Already people are making comparisons with the 1920s, although I think we do not have the same calibre of conductors today."

In musical terms, Flor usually describes himself succinctly as "a Saxon, not a Prussian". He will try to make a strong section shimmer, his interpretations will radiate warmth and character, and his performances will often go differently from the way he rehearsed

them. His recordings of Martin and Mendelssohn are full of spirit, and he is tackling Wagner for the first time this year (and doing *Parsifal* in Dusseldorf) in 1994. "For me, the road to Mahler is long," he says, which will be a relief to those music-lovers who think that conductors want to move much too fast, and for the wrong reason, into Mahler's epic symphonies. Often it seems a case of "apocalypse now, learn the score properly later".

That will never be Flor's attitude. For all his outwardly dynamic personality, he is cautious about his career. "The way to approach a lot of important repertoire is not to approach it at all until you are at least 50. Well, perhaps once, in a small city without music critics, just for practice."

A tradition of rock impressionism has accumulated over the last 30 years; perhaps it began with white musicians like Elvis Presley, Mick Jagger and John Lennon visiting the legendary Apollo Theatre in Harlem in order to soak up what they believed to be the mysteries of black culture.

The former Rolling Stone Brian Jones stepped even further into this perceived heart of darkness when he travelled to a Moroccan village to record the villagers' strange, wailing music. These tapes were released by the Rolling Stones after his death, heavily treated electronically, with a sticker laid over the original album title. *Brian Jones Presents the Pipes of Pan at Joujouka* was the final title, whereas the original had claimed that Jones was an active musical participant. The

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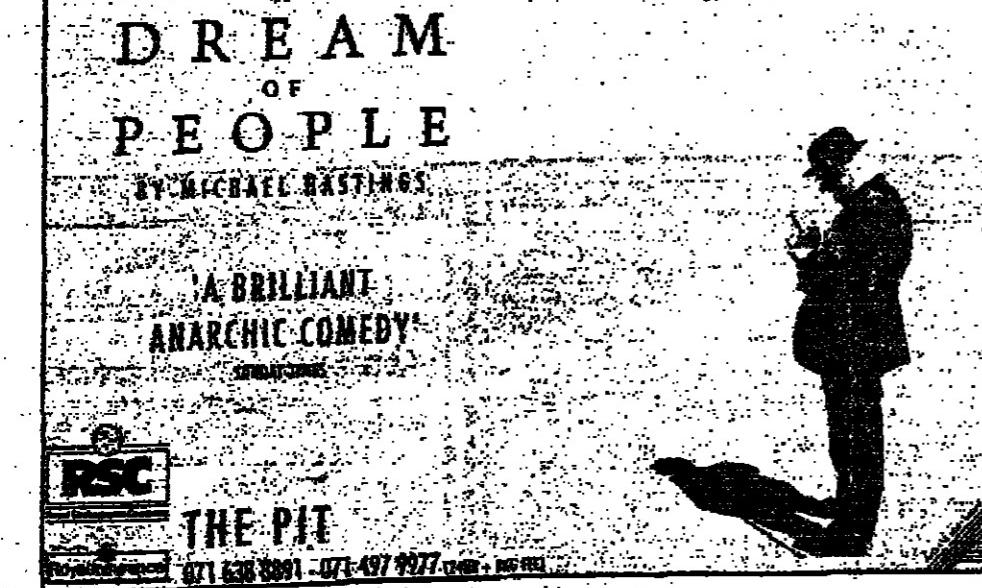
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BRIEFING

Season of surprises

THE BBC Symphony Orchestra celebrates its 60th anniversary with a season that emphasises the orchestra's pre-eminence in 20th-century music. Yesterday a winter season was announced which includes three world premieres by Jonathan Harvey, Dominic Muldowney and Howard Skempton. Moreover, the BBC SO's five autumn concerts in the Festival Hall consist almost entirely of pieces either premiered or introduced to this country by the orchestra. The season opens on October 8 with Dame Gwyneth Jones singing Schoenberg's *Erwartung* and Nigel Kennedy playing Berg's Violin Concerto.

Pensionable parts

WHEN David Lean's long-planned film of Joseph Conrad's *Nostromo* moves into production (with luck, next January), one person will receive a healthy cheque for twiddling his thumbs. That person is David Lean's stand-in: somebody who could step into the breach if the 82-year-old director proved unable to complete the assignment. Names of possible thumb-twiddlers have been bandied around. At first the director of *Bonnie and Clyde*, Arthur Penn, was lined up, and then Axel Corti, best-known for *Metropolis in Vienna*, emerged.

Lean's fellow British directors have not been forgotten. The maverick John Boorman (57) has expressed his eagerness to help the octogenarian to mount what must be regarded as his final film. But the name now mentioned is Guy Hamilton, plodding but dependable veteran of *The Colditz Story* and assorted Bond adventures, who is 68 this month. Any more candidates?

Breaking the mould

PERHAPS every doctor wants to become a novelist like Somerset Maugham, and every stockbroker wants to run to Tahiti and become a painter like Gauguin. But it is curious to find dentists starting a stampede towards sculpture. Richard Maizman has apparently thrown up dentistry in order to become a full-time sculptor, working in free forms which suggest a happy liberation from the fitting and matching of the average dentist's day.

Now another contender enters the field — Neil Lawson Baker, who has a one-man show opening at the Waterman Gallery next week. He continues dentistry as well, and seems to have no difficulty in combining the two callings. Possibly a deep interest in philosopher Kahlil Gibran, the subject of a series of works, aids him to soar effortlessly out of the mouth and into the infinite.

Rose gala

THE West End gala premiere tonight of *Sir Thomas More*, the literary curiosity which most scholars now agree was partly written by Shakespeare, could help to reveal more of the theatre for which it was commissioned nearly 400 years ago. The performance is in aid of the Rose Theatre Trust, which is raising money to pay for further excavation and possible preservation of the site in Southwark, London.

The original owner of the Rose, Sir Philip Henslowe, commissioned Anthony Munday to write the play in 1593 and Munday called in four writers to help him, including, according to scholars, the youthful Shakespeare (who also probably acted on the Rose stage). Because of its political overtones, the play was never performed in its own time. It is now being revived by the Stage One Theatre Company, a London-based troupe devoted to promoting forgotten plays. *Sir Thomas More*, which opens tomorrow, can be seen until September 29 at the Shaw Theatre (071-388 1394).

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REVIEWS

In mourning for closed eyes

TELEVISION
 First Tuesday/
 The Thatcher Audit
 ITV/Channel 4

IN JULY of last year, a 14-year-old Pakistani boy was murdered by a high-powered airgun fired into his face just 20ft from his front door. He had never met his attackers, one of whom was an unemployed white man who had stolen a car in Blackpool the day before, found the gun in its boot, and decided to use it at random on Asian neighbours in Oldham.

The killer was arrested almost immediately, and is now serving a life sentence; there was no mystery, no motive, no financial gain, and the death was forgotten within days by all but those most closely involved. For "Murder in Grodwick" last night (*First Tuesday*, ITV), a Yorkshire Television crew led by Mark Galloway reconstructed the murder and travelled to Pakistan with the grieving family in an attempt to understand just what did happen.

The prime witness was Joanne Cooper, who was with the killer in a car just before the murder took place. She said Steven Lamb, guilty of several previous thoughtless serious offences, was in no way racist. He had black friends at school. On the other hand, he had just been cheated out of £5 by a black drug dealer and was feeling somewhat aggrieved. As a result, he took to firing pot-shots at the Asian community in Oldham and was alleged to have said: "I shot the black bastard, did you see his legs wobble?"

According to *First Tuesday*, Lamb had no idea that he had actually killed someone until he heard the local radio news next morning: it had apparently not occurred to him that an airgun could be lethal. Despite all evidence, the local police refused to classify it as a racial killing and indeed declined to be interviewed for this programme. They ran a perfectly efficient murder enquiry.

PROMS
 BBCSO/Schonwandt
 Albert Hall/Radio 3

THE first thing one has to note is that the Danish composer Poul Ruders' work, the Symphony "Himmelsbach jauchzend — zum Tode betrübt", commissioned for this year's Proms and performed before a lamentably sparse audience on Monday, has an unashamedly Romantic flavour. Its title, taken from Goethe's *Egmont*, means "Exulting to the heavens — grieving unto death", which implies a more delicate balance of emotions than is actually contained in the piece. This is garrulous music, happily instinctive (as many Proms commissions seem to have been this year), and scored for an orchestra of Mahlerian propor-

got their conviction, but apparently closed their eyes to the immense racial tension that it created as if, by ignoring it, the feelings of the Pakistani community could also be overlooked.

Around the pub, some people had to say: "One down, five million to go". There was even talk of the killer having a heart of gold. The Pakistani family took their boy back to be buried in his father's native village where a whole community seemed to be in mourning, not only for a life but for an attitude.

The problem is unlikely to go away, at least until the police face up to the reality of a racist killing. "We weren't really interested in the little Paki boy," said one of the killer's friends, implying that he had just been murdered in passing. Which of course is exactly what happened: it was a casual casualty.

Over on Channel 4, though probably not intended as such, the three programmes called *The Thatcher Audit* have been impressive party-political broadcasts for any opposition at the next election. The series reached the conclusion that the great economic miracle of the last decade has been neither a miracle nor even very economic, but last night Will Hutton came up with some of the most chilling statistics of all.

As Britain moves towards the year 2000, by which time he reckons the country should be almost totally uncompetitive with the rest of Europe, let alone the world, we are still only educating 20 per cent of our youth to university or polytechnic standards, as against 50 per cent for the rest of the EC and 80 per cent for the United States. Then again, after a decade of pledging to change things, the government has still only managed to give a quarter of the workforce any vocational training of any kind.

Not surprisingly, the great growth career of the moment is that of company liquidator, while there is a record number of insolvencies, and inflation is nearing double figures. Some-



"Murder in Grodwick": Sefina Akram, the victim's sister

thing, said Hutton, wandering along a disused railway track, seems to have gone a bit wrong: Britain has made virtually no investments in the future, allowed the spending boom to go bust, and is still taking a thoroughly dim view of teaching students how to take account of Britain's various economic future; entries on a postcard to the usual address. The *Thatcher Audit* is now closed, but will be interesting to hear what they sing at the Tory party conference instead of anti-industrial hymns. Highlights from *Les Misérables*, maybe.

Sir Geoffrey Howe thought it was the fault of Jerusalem, not the city but the hymn: "Every time you sing about the dark satanic mills alongside this green and

pleasant land," he said, "you are reinforcing a kind of residual anti-manufacturing prejudice."

So perhaps what we now need is a drastically rewritten hymn book to take account of Britain's various economic future; entries on a postcard to the usual address. The *Thatcher Audit* is now closed, but will be interesting to hear what they sing at the Tory party conference instead of anti-industrial hymns. Highlights from *Les Misérables*, maybe.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

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Controls on TV balance rejected

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

AN ATTEMPT to impose a statutory code of impartiality on television broadcasters has been rejected by the government. Instead David Mellor, arts minister, last night called on the Independent Television Commission (ITC) to draft and supervise a strengthened voluntary code.

Mr Mellor, charged with seeing the broadcasting bill through to Royal Assent in November, said the government would also introduce amendments at the Lords report stage to make the three new national commercial radio channels subject to the same due impartiality requirements as the new Channel 5 licensees.

Mr Mellor, speaking at a Royal Television Society dinner in London last night, did not specify how the ITC would strengthen the existing IBA guidelines other than to say the bill would set out the main areas which the code should cover.

The attempt to give the code statutory force was backed by 113 Tory MPs and right-wing peers led by Lord Wyatt.

Lord Chalfont, the deputy chairman of the shadow Radio Authority, said during the committee stage of the bill in the Lords that the ITC would be called on to ensure that all current affairs and documentaries contain "an appropriate range of views" on any controversial subject and that two or more programmes in the same series must "balance" the others in the same way. Broadcasters would be required to explain at the outset of a programme or series the timescale over which balance would be achieved.

"I can see no legitimate objection to this approach," Mr Mellor said. "I would suggest in all sincerity that we should all keep a sense of proportion about the proposals the government is making," he told senior television executives and producers.

Mr Mellor described the amendments on due impartiality set out by Lord Wyatt and Lord Orr-Ewing as unworkable.

"Not only do I not believe that parliament could provide an adequate definition of due impartiality in the statute, I do not believe that it should try. Politicians, of all people, are the least able to be regarded as impartial, particularly on matters of political controversy," he said.

"Due impartiality is a concept which quite properly stops short of an absolute requirement of achieving even balance. There is no obligation to be neutral between truth and untruth, justice and injustice, compassion and cruelty, tolerance and intolerance."

The government is also to overturn a Lords amendment to the bill which would have required TV companies to air educational, social action and documentary programmes during prime time viewing.

Airlines face order to replace all seats

By HARVEY ELLIOTT

AIRLINES around the world are to be ordered to remove the seats from their aircraft and replace them with new ones capable of withstanding a force equivalent to 16 times that of gravity.

Safety authorities in the United States are preparing legislation that is certain to be followed by British and European aviation bodies and will mean that around one million new seats costing a total of more than \$1 billion will have to be fitted.

The legislation is in line with recommendations made by the Air Accident Investigation Branch in its report into the *M1* air disaster in which 47 people died last year. An annex to the report made by the Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham, says that many passengers were killed or seriously injured when their seats broke away from the floor of the aircraft and that rear-facing seats could have prevented the injuries.

Their conclusions were not accepted by the AAIB, which recommended instead long-term research into the problem. The new rules would, however, achieve the same effect without changing completely the interior design of aircraft in a way that safety authorities, airlines, manufacturers and passengers agree would be unnecessary.

The rules, which will have to be complied with within five years, have forced manufacturers to redesign seats and subject them to tests which must be completed before the seats are accepted.

British Airways has told suppliers that seats will have to meet the "16G" requirement. The airline will replace existing seats, designed to withstand 9G forces, when aircraft are refurbished.

The British Midland Boeing 737-400 jet that crashed at Kegworth on the *M1* was fitted with seats designed to withstand such loads but the floor itself could only withstand forces of 9G.

The AAIB report, which is due to be published at the end of this month, will say that research should be carried out to increase cabin floor strength to match that of the seat. Aircraft manufacturers are fighting the proposals because, they argue, this would add to the weight and therefore the cost and payload of aircraft without producing a significant safety benefit. Instead they are insisting that the seats and not the floors should take the additional strain.

"Our interest is in preventing crashes from happening in the first place rather than improving the chances of survivors after an accident," one manufacturer said.

One leading seat maker has produced a seat which meets the proposed requirements. David Boulter, chief executive of Aircraft Furnishing, said: "We are now working on further improvements and waiting to see exactly what the regulations say. In the end, however, we strongly believe that the floors of aircraft should be built to the same strengths as the seats."



Jubilee performer Nigel Kennedy, the top-of-the-charts violinist, on the steps of the BBC Symphony Orchestra's lorry yesterday after the announcement that he will play the Berg Violin Concerto at the Festival Hall on October 8 to launch the orchestra's Diamond Jubilee season during which they will give 21 concerts

Saudi soldiers putting their faith in the desert landscape

Continued from page 1

seem to have taken his advice to heart and could be found sipping tea beneath a camouflaged tent fitted out with Persian carpets, electric lighting, a colour television, and even an air-conditioning unit.

Saudi Arabia's armed forces number less than 100,000 men, but the kingdom has amassed a staggering array of French and American tanks, anti-aircraft missiles, and artillery pieces which the country's Western-trained officers seem confident will blunt the aggressor to the north.

The Saudi officers said that American satellite intelligence about the Iraqis is relayed to them every hour, so they will be warned about an Iraqi offensive even before the first tank moves across the border.

The Arab forces comprise troops and armour from the six Gulf Co-operation Council nations: Saudi Arabia, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, and the remnants of the Kuwaiti forces who number about

2,000 men. There are also several thousand Egyptian, Moroccan, and Syrian troops who will soon be joined by Pakistani and Bangladeshi troops.

In the increasingly unlikely event of an Iraqi push, the Arab troops would be expected to blunt an armoured attack by a superior Iraqi force and provide American, British, and Saudi war aircraft with time to launch a retaliatory air strike. If the Iraqi forces did push through, which they probably would in a matter of hours, they would then be met by US ground forces about 50 miles to the south.

The real value of the Arab and Islamic forces, however, is in providing international and regional political support for the Saudi government and for the presence of American forces on the ground. Of the joint Arab forces, the 2,000-man contingent of elite, Egyptian special forces soldiers, some of whom fought in the 1973 war against Israel, appear to be the best prepared for war, judging by their rigorous training

exercises in 120-degree heat and the quiet confidence of their officers.

● The looting of Kuwait by Iraqi troops has led Western governments to believe that they might be anticipating orders to withdraw (Andrew McEwen writes). Heavy equipment has been removed from hospitals and other public buildings, in addition to private cars, furniture and other property stolen earlier.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said in Jeddah last night: "I have the impression that the Iraqis are behaving in Kuwait like pirates rather than like an army of occupation. They are looting and destroying in a way which suggests that they may not expect to be there for very long."

Abdul Wahab Al-Fowzan, Kuwait's minister for public health, said the Iraqis had removed X-ray machines, kidney dialysis equipment and furniture from hospitals. He said Kuwaiti citizens were no longer being permitted to enter the hospitals which now treated mainly Iraqis and Palestinians.

Russian communists berate party leader

Continued from page 1

signed his delegate's mandate before the congress opened, and another - the deputy editor of the theoretical party journal, *Kommunist*, who is an economist of radical views - resigned publicly from the policy drafting commission yesterday. He said that the policy document diverged from the reformist policies set out in the Soviet party's policy programme approved in July and was stolen earlier.

A delegat from the Urals city of Sverdlovsk, which is Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president's old stamping ground, spoke of a "mighty departure" from the Communist party since Mr Polozkov's election.

The Russian party leader's only support came from a veteran Leningrad worker who spoke in the language of undiluted Stalinism and an old-school Moscow professor who spoke about the class struggle.

Introducing the draft policy document, Mr Polozkov offered a range of compromises. He suggested that a second congress

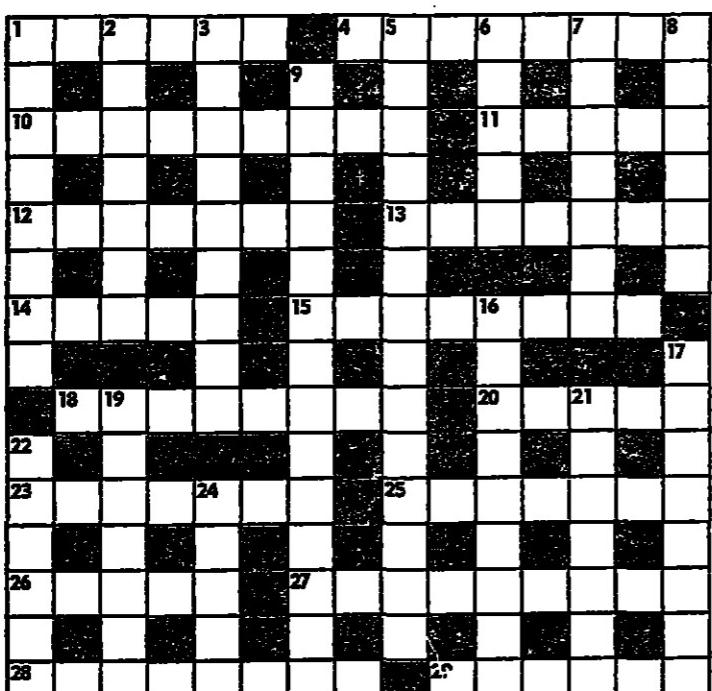
would be necessary early next year, and proposed as one option that the final version of the programme and the new party's rules need not be approved until then. He also requested that the "question of the post of first secretary" should not be mentioned as "I will be making an announcement later".

Among the documents distributed to delegates is a draft regulation on party referendums which, it says, can be used to decide "the most important questions of principle in... party life".

The referendum is not an institution yet accepted by the Soviet parliament, although its introduction has been mooted.

The appearance of this document, which was never mentioned at the first part of the party congress in June, suggests that Mr Polozkov may have been persuaded to put his position as party leader and the policy questions to a referendum of all Russian party members. Opposition to his leadership is strongest in the lower party organisations and he would almost certainly lose.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,391



26 Queen of France has replaced one divine female (5).

27 Substandard delivery put back in large pool (9).

28 For example, counts head printer's measures (about fifty) (5).

29 Man in boat as replacement for pilot (6).

DOWN

1 Seafood adds a bit of weight to a middle (3).

2 Foreigner providing first part of book list (7).

3 Talk for TV serial's character (9).

5 Daily backers for vigilante force (8,6).

6 Original American contribution to certain juniors (5).

7 Nothing in double act altered in composition (7).

8 Upheaved state that's in endless revolt (6).

9 Embarrassing part of issue raised by the French (6,8).

10 Deals needing right pieces of information, in a fashion (9).

11 Arouse intense interest in affair (8).

12 Saw pirate ship in lead (7).

13 Enjoy embracing one's rescuer (7).

14 Legal process called for by direction (5).

15 Bishop, for one, brings service book to church (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,390

DULCIMER CELTIC
N R O I O I Q I A
VACANT GANGSTER
W C I H T A T
JACKBOOT RUNNER
R L N H A I I
FETID HOUSEMAID
O N E N T A G
ROUGHSHOD SLICE
E N C U S A O
SERBIA RALLYING
I O L A E A O
GOLFCLUB UMLAUT
H L O L T A E
TOSSUP EXHUMERS

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by eight per cent of the competitors at the 1990 London B regional final of The Times Collins Dictionaries Crossword Championship.

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

STONKER

a. To kill

b. A hit at conkers

c. A Merchant Navy stoker

HYSTERESIS

a. The historical process

b. Male hysteria

c. Learning by searching

CHOBDAK

a. Curried fish

b. A beanie

c. Coffee and tea mixed

MARGAY

a. Stained with travel

b. An impasse at draughts

c. South American tiger cat

Answers on page 18

AA ROADWATCH

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followed by the appropriate code.

LONDON & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.) 731

20G (75P); 10 min 6pm to 6am (5P)

4G (5P); 10 min 6pm to 6am (5P)

20G (75P); 10 min 6pm to 6am (5P)

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- DEGREE RESULTS 36
- DEGREE COURSE VACANCIES 37
- LAW 37
- SPORT 38-42

BUSINESS

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 5 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Hardy to convert loan stock

HARDY Oil & Gas, the former subsidiary of Trafalgar House, is to convert its £30 million, 4 per cent convertible loan stock, due 2004, that it issued to the property and bonds group on the demerger in 1989 (Jonathan Prynne writes).

The loan stock was issued to provide Hardy with long-term finance as an independent company after the demerger. However, the issuer has decided that covenants included in the terms of the loan stock that "could act as a constraint on the further development of the business".

These include restrictions on borrowings, disposals and acquisition of assets, share issues and dividends and distributions.

The converted loan stock will be placed by Lazard Frères at 198p a share. There is also an issue of warrants to Trafalgar House to compensate for the loss of income from the early redemption.

A statement from Hardy said: "Following discussions Trafalgar House has agreed to realise a substantial part of its investment in Hardy, while retaining a continued interest in the company. The issue of the new ordinary shares and their subsequent placing and the issue of warrants provides the means for this without depleting Hardy's cash resources."

The move will allow Hardy to reduce its borrowings by £30 million and save £1.2 million a year in interest payments.

Interim payout raised by IMI

IMI, with interests in advanced and high-technology products, is raising its interim dividend from 3.8p to 4.2p a share after reporting pre-tax profits of £63.5 million (£60.1 million) for the six months ended June 30.

Turnover rose to £540 million (£540 million). But IMI says that some caution is "prudent and necessary" concerning the second half year.

Tempus, page 23

THE POUND

US dollar 1.8750 (+0.0030)
W German mark 2.9711 (+0.0066)
Exchange index 94.5 (+0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1670.9 (-16.5)
FT-SE 100 2148.0 (-18.6)
New York Dow Jones 2588.37 (-25.99)
Tokyo Nikkei Avg 24907.64 (-512.79)

Closing Prices ... Page 27
Major indices and major changes Page 24

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 15%
3-month Interbank 14%
3-month eligible bills 14%
US: Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 8%
3-month Treasury Bills 7.39%
30-year bonds 9.7%
CURRENCIES

New York:
£ 1.8750
\$ DM1.505
\$ 1.370
\$ FF19.9384
\$ Yen143.58
Index 94.5
SDR 695047
ECU 0.695047
SDR Dm/
ECU 1.36688
£ SDR/ya

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$306.75 pm \$381.40
close \$322.00-\$322.50 (E203.75-
204.25)
New York:
Comex \$32.70-\$33.20*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Oct) ... \$28.80bb (\$28.75)
Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.25
Austria Sch	2.70
Belgium Fr	63.00
Canada \$	2.265
Denmark Kr	11.25
Finland Fr	10.25
Germany DM	3.08
Greece Dr	2.25
Hong Kong \$	15.00
Ireland £	1.05
Italy Lira	230.50
Japan Yen	263.50
Netherlands Gld	3.475
Norway Kr	12.25
Portugal Fr	272.25
South Africa R	5.30
Spain Pta	191.50
Sweden Kr	1.05
Switzerland Fr	2.57
Turkey Lira	200.00
USA \$	1.55
Yugoslavia Dr	25.25

Rates for small denominations bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers cheques.
Retail Price Index 125.8 (May)

CBI economists see ERM entry as inflation key

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

CBI economists have advocated sterling's immediate entry into the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System at nearer DM3 than DM2.60 as part of a programme to bring Britain's inflation rate permanently below 3 per cent within five years.

The report, commissioned by the CBI council to influence political programmes for the next election, was published as speculation mounted in the financial markets that sterling might be fixed against the mark during this weekend's meeting of European Community finance ministers.

"We took our eye off the ball," he said. The CBI wants a long-term publicity campaign for stable prices.

Home demand will need to be reduced below its long-term trend for some time by means of tight fiscal policy and continuing high interest rates to back up the commitment to a stable currency, the report concludes.

The authorities would also need to be cautious in judging when to relax policy, not just in the short term but for years ahead.

If personal tax increases are needed, it would be wrong to fight shy of them on political grounds," Professor McWilliams said. The report says that inflation has inflicted long-term damage on the economy through increasing uncertainty and requiring higher real as well as nominal interest rates. A rise of 1 per cent in inflation raises bankruptcies by almost 6 per cent, Professor McWilliams estimated.

But the CBI is not formally urging pay restraint by senior management, which it says is low-paid by international standards. Senior managers' pay averages nearly 40 per cent less than in West Germany and wages about 30 per cent less, Professor McWilliams said.

Further measures will be needed to increase flexibility in the labour market, including greater government support for training schemes.

The report advocates more decentralised pay bargaining, especially in the public sector, but suggests that the timing of pay deals should be synchronised, as in Japan, to avoid leapfrogging.

The report is not official CBI policy and formal backing will not be sought for it at the CBI conference in November.

Inflation started surging back up in 1986, two years earlier than generally thought, mainly due to excess demand, exacerbated by pay rises geared to the retail price index.

The report urges reform to the retail price index to eliminate the index used in other EC countries. But Professor McWilliams said the inflationary psychology in pay bargaining would not be broken until managers knew that higher costs would not be relieved by devaluation.

"Unless we change our inflationary habits, UK wages will overtake German wages by 1995, with disastrous consequences for the ability of UK firms to compete in world markets," he said.

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Comment, page 23

Reserves rise by \$366m

BRITAIN'S gold and foreign exchange reserves rose by an underlying \$366 million in August, just under 1 per cent, after July's \$173 million rise.

The rise suggests the Bank of England intervened mildly to stem the rise of sterling in the month, which saw higher oil prices and the re-emergence of the pound as a petro-

currency. At the end of August, sterling lost most of its 3.3 per cent rise in the three weeks after Kuwait's invasion.

• The Bank of England is to auction 1 billion Ecu's of Treasury Bills on Tuesday, split between one, three and six-month bills, plus a further 50 million ecus to be allotted to the Bank for dealing.

Comment, page 23

Sedgwick limited to 3% rise

By OUR CITY STAFF

SHARES in Sedgwick Group, the insurance broker, fell 1.7p to 181p after the company announced a 3 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £67.7 million for the six months to end-June, and warned of deteriorating conditions in the North American insurance market.

David Rowland, the chairman, said: "Sedgwick has done well to increase revenues by 6 per cent in constant exchange rate terms – and 11 per cent excluding North American subsidiaries."

"This has been achieved by the successful development of new business and by holding expenses to an underlying increase of 5 per cent."

However, Mr Rowland said: "In North America had resumed their downward progress, affecting Sedgwick's specialist market of medium-sized companies particularly badly. Sedgwick has about half its business in North America."

"These conditions, with the present weakness of the dollar, must have an effect on our performance for the remainder of the year," he said.

However, the group "will continue to respond by vigorously reshaping the organisation to take full advantage of the changing conditions in the world insurance industry," he added.

The interim dividend is unchanged at 4p.

Kleinwort seeks Storehouse bonds

By JONATHAN PRYNNE

KLEINWORT Benson yesterday went into the market to buy back a further £1 million nominal of the Euroconvertible bond issued by its client Storehouse in 1987. The retail group has made an offer through its advisers to buy back the £69 million bond from investors at 108 per cent of its nominal value and has already trawled in £26 million worth from the market.

The bond is one of the troublesome premium put Euroconvertibles launched by a clutch of high-riding companies, including Next and Ratners, just before the October crash. These offered the issuers incredibly cheap money – often carrying coupons of 5 per cent, well below those on normal convertibles – but attractive conversion terms to the investors if the share price performed.

In the event, because of Black Monday, they did not.

ABP originally borrowed £175 million (£21.74 million) from Mercantile Credit.

ABP is also taking action against City Project Finances,

As a result, the investor fall-back, a put option at a price guaranteeing a gilt return to the bond holder, came into play. Unfortunately for the companies concerned, most had to provide for the additional accrued interest they were now almost certainly liable for because of their underperforming share prices.

With the languishing and virtually untraded bonds yielding nearly 18 per cent, Storehouse has clearly decided the time has come to take the bonds off the hands of those that wish to sell and replace them with a cheaper, and hopefully less complex, form of finance.

Because of the value of the put option, exercisable in 1992, the cost of the buyback will virtually match the benefit to Storehouse of being able to add the provision back to the P&L, although there may be a small gain for the company.

In the event, because of Black Monday, they did not.

Comment, page 23

Goodman subsidiary sues for £20m

By OUR CITY STAFF

ABP Holdings, a subsidiary of Goodman International, the Irish meat group, is suing the Bank of Cyprus for the return of £20 million it claims is part of an outstanding debt.

Goodman discovered it could not recover the money.

ABP is also taking action against City Project Finances,

Graham Hauptman, a South African, and two Cypriot businessmen. The hearing is scheduled for September 24.

Goodman's failure to recover the money from Cyprus last May was a major factor in its cash shortage, which forced it to seek protection from its creditors in the Dublin High Court last week.

Comment, page 23

Dipping in to the NGC pool

By DEREK HARRIS, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE National Grid Company since the end of March has been climbing a learning curve in handling what is effectively privatised electricity's spot market. Today, it is moving up a step in its statutory mission to bring competition to electricity pricing.

The NGC will, on a daily basis, be publishing provisional prices for trading the next day as well as the final settlement prices for the day's trading done a month before. Prices move in 30-minute stages round the clock, hitting lows in the small hours of the night and peaks at times such as the start of the working day, lunch time and early evening.

The object is to heighten the perception of those involved in the market of the possibilities of competition and especially to interest possible newcomers to generation. For instance, cheap rate electricity is provisionally priced at 1.098p per kilowatt hour in the early hours of the morning, but the price rises

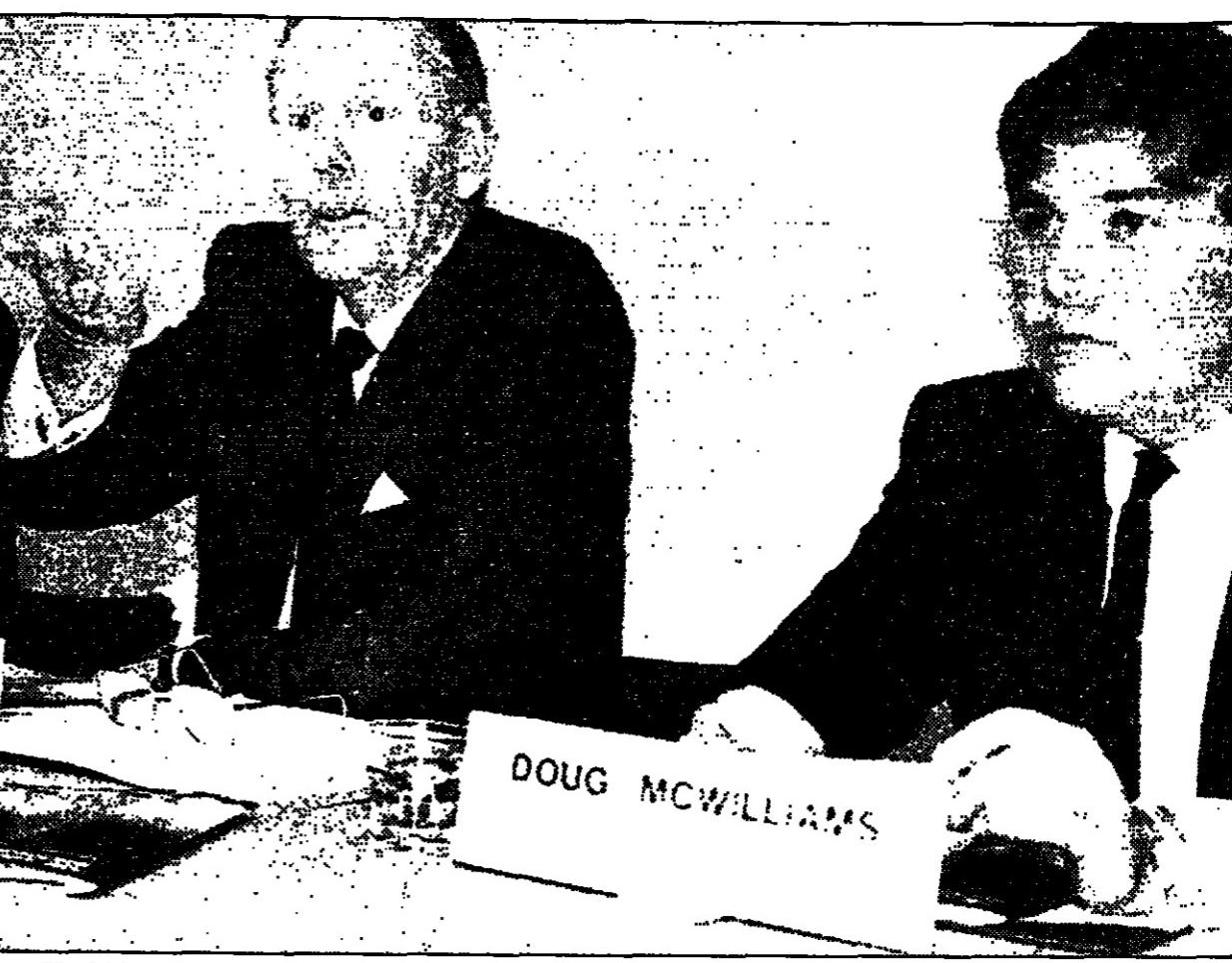
10am each day, each generating company puts in an offer price for each of its generating units for each half-hour of the day. At the same time, it sets out availability of plant, state of readiness and ability to meet for limited periods excess demand.

Among those involved in the market are the main generators – National Power, PowerGen and Nuclear Electric – as well as Scottish Electric, Hydro Electric, Scottish Nuclear and National Grid's own pumped-storage power station in North Wales, which is treated as an individual profit centre. There are also the 12 electricity distributors.

The spot market is a complex arrangement operating through an electricity power "pool". The concept has arisen because once electricity is fed into the grid, its precise origin cannot be pinpointed.

NGC has already made some changes to the pool arrangements and is considering some others. But now, no later than

Full details on pooling rules will be spelled out in NGC's prospectus.



Hard-hitting report: Sir Brian Corby, left, and Professor McWilliams give the CBI economists' views yesterday

Comment, page 23

Bowater surges by 19% to £48.4m

By MICHAEL TATE, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

BOWATER, the packaging to laminates group, overcame a surge in interest payments in the first six months of 1990, and a downturn in its Australian operations, to produce a 19 per cent advance in pre-tax profits to £48.4 million, compared with £40.7m last year.

The group's interest payments leapt from £4 million to £11.5 million as borrowings rocketed following the purchase of Norton Opax at the end of last year. Gearing at one point soared to 131 per cent.

A rights issue and the sale of Croxley Builders Merchants have since recouped more than £250 million, and the gearing figure had been reduced to 33 per cent by the end of June.

Turnover rose from £642 million to £683 million. Earnings per share on the enlarged capital are just 3 per cent higher at 23.5p, but the interim dividend is lifted from 8.5p to 9.5p, as forecast at the time of the rights issue.

During the past three years, Caird has grown rapidly through acquisition, making a series of cash calls on shareholders to fund expansion. In October 1989, the company raised £34.5 million via a rights issue of convertible preference shares. Last February, a placing of new shares raised £4.6 million.

No profit forecast was made by the company, but City analysts claim they were led to believe that profits would show substantial short-term growth.

"With the benefit of hindsight we can see that people's expectations got carried away from any basis in reality," Mr Parker said.

The company said that profitability had been affected by investment in new equipment for waste treatment and disposal and by management changes which had taken place within the special waste division.

Coatings and laminates also increased margins on higher sales, he said.

Li 'solicited shares to back HKSE listings'

From LULU YU IN HONG KONG

RONALD Li, the former chairman of the Hong Kong stock exchange, used his position to profit from the shares of two companies as a reward for supporting their listings in 1986 and 1987, the Hong Kong high court heard yesterday.

After approving the listing application by the Swire-controlled Cathay Pacific Airways in April 1986, Mr Li telephoned an executive of Wardley, the merchant bank advising the airline, to request half a million shares.

He got the shares, and sold them over a period of four months, making profits of about HK\$380,000 (£58,000), said Michael Kalisher, QC, opening the Crown case.

Mr Kalisher said Mr Li "deliberately concealed" his transaction and once lied about it to Robert Fell, the colony's former banking commissioner brought in to head the stock exchange after the worldwide market crash in October 1987.

"Why was he lying? Simply because he knew he'd been involved in a corrupt transaction. He sought, obtained and profited from the Cathay Pacific shares," said Mr Kalisher.

Mr Li, aged 60, faces two counts of accepting an advantage for supporting the granting of listing of shares in Cathay Pacific Airways and Novel Enterprises Ltd on the stock exchange in 1986 and 1987.

Mr Kalisher said on March

3 1987, Mr Li played a leading role in giving approval to the listing of Novel Enterprises. A day later, he phoned a Wardley executive acting for Novel and asked for 300,000 shares.

After being told of the request, Ronald Chao, the chairman of Novel Enterprises, acted on Wardley's advice and gave preferential allotment to Mr Li, who at the time was also chairman of the exchange's listing committee.

"He solicited shares and he got them," the jury was told.

"Again, the transaction was kept secret and again made a substantial profit once the shares were listed by selling them."

Shares of both companies were heavily oversubscribed.

"What we must prove is that in each case, the preferential allotment was an advantage... that he accepted it in his capacity as an agent of the exchange, and that his state of mind was such that the advantage was a reward for having approved the listing," Mr Kalisher told the jury.

Mr Li, one of the richest men in Hong Kong, was the founding chairman of the stock exchange which opened in April 1986, replacing four smaller exchanges.

He became steeped in controversy when he closed the exchange for four days after Black Monday, a move which shattered Hong Kong's reputation as a financial centre for international investors.

Investors benefit from 20% leap in payout



Popping corks for bigger profits: John Barker and Paul Wynne, finance director

Isotron celebrates healthy 23% profits rise to £2.95m

By MARTIN BARROW

DIRECTORS of Isotron, the quoted irradiation services group, were popping the champagne corks - bacteria free, of course - after announcing a 23 per cent increase in annual profits.

Corks, cosmetics, talcum powder and even animal bedding are among the consumer products sterilised by the irradiation process, which exposes items to gamma rays.

The process is mainly used in

the medical sector to sterilise equipment.

Food irradiation is expected to be allowed in Britain from January 1, but John Barker, the managing director of Isotron, says the process is unlikely to be widely used by supermarkets in this country.

The main factor curtailing the use of irradiation is likely to be the adverse effect it has on the taste of certain foods, particularly fats. Irradiation of prod-

ucts such as fruit is unlikely to be cost effective, but herbs and spices, are said to be ideal for the process.

The company reported pre-tax profits up from £2.4 million to £2.95 million for the year to the end of June, on turnover 14 per cent higher at £5.43 million. A final dividend of 2.07p a share makes 3.12p for the year, up 20 per cent, payable from earnings of 15.5p a share, up 22 per cent.

Warning at CRH despite £32m

By COLIN CAMPBELL

CRH, the international building materials group based in Ireland, so far appears to have bucked the trend experienced by many in its sector and reports an 18.2 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £32.1 million (£29.05 million) for the six months to June 30.

Turnover rose from £500.9 million to £603.3 million, and Tony Barry, the chief executive, says the geographic and product balance should ensure that full-year results show an improvement on a record 1989 outcome. The interim dividend rises by 14.3 per cent to 12p a share.

However, CRH gives a warning that since June 30, the downturn in British construction activity has intensified, and a slowing down in demand in the agricultural sector is likely to have an impact on the rate of volume growth in Ireland.

In addition, recent events in the Middle East have further clouded the international economic outlook. But there was a strong improvement in operating profits in Ireland and mainland Europe, and very modest increases in America and Britain.

Irish cement sales volumes advanced, though those of certain other construction materials showed greater strength.

In Britain, the continuing decline in housing activity has had an increasingly depressing effect on the group's Keyline merchandising operations, particularly in the Southeast. Anchor Lite also experienced difficult markets although demand for its specialised roofing products was helped as a result of the severe storms early in the year. In the Netherlands, all operations reported improved trading.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

News Limited sells distribution arm

NEWS Limited, part of The News Corporation, has sold the Australian and New Zealand operations of Gordon and Gough, its magazine distribution arm, and three provincial newspapers in Victoria, to its associate, Independent Newspapers, the New Zealand group, for Aus\$150 million (£62.5 million).

Independent Newspapers is raising Aus\$122 million to help finance the deal. This is being achieved through a placing of 16.5 million 12 per cent convertible notes of Aus\$4 each, which will raise Aus\$66 million, and a one-for-six issue to shareholders and noteholders, to raise a further Aus\$56 million. News Ltd will take up its full entitlement to both the placing and the cash issue, to maintain its interest at 49.7 per cent. Its net cash inflow from the deal will therefore be about Aus\$90 million.

Interim leap at Fairhaven

FAIRHAVEN International, the Bermuda-registered oil services group, boosted pre-tax profits from \$1.3 million to \$5.6 million in the first half of this year. Earnings a share, including a full contribution from Belmont Constructors of Houston, rose from 0.4 to 1.7 cents. Fairhaven gave a warning that industrial action in the North Sea would affect the second half.

ELF Aquitaine, the French oil company, which owns 25 per cent of Enterprise Oil, saw no income rise, 14 per cent to Fr4.9 billion in the first half of 1990. Sales rose 13 per cent to Fr82.3 billion francs. Oil production rose by nearly 30 per cent to 104.3 million barrels at an average of \$17.9 a barrel. Operating profits from refining and marketing rose three-fold to Fr900 million.

Elf advances at half time

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Usher edges ahead

EVENING wear is as much in fashion as ever, says the USM-quoted fashion house, Frank Usher. Pre-tax profits for the year to end-May, rose to £1.38 million (£1.29 million) on sales of £15.3 million (£13.3 million). Earnings per share fell from 13p to 12.6p as a result of higher tax and interest charges. The final dividend has been maintained at 4p, making 6p for the year.

About 40 per cent of the group's turnover was overseas with a significant proportion in West Germany. The group's shares rose 1p to 61p.

Hoechst has interim fall

PEEK, the electronics group, had a 3.2 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £6.03 million for the six months of 1990 at Hoechst, the West German chemical group, fell to DM1.82 billion from DM2.10 billion in the same period last year. Hoechst said in a letter to shareholders: "We expect no considerable changes in the development of our business in the next few months." First-half turnover fell 2.2 per cent to DM22.43 billion. 1.05p.

Peek rises to £6.03m

PROVIDENT Financial Group, the Bradford consumer finance company, has announced an "encouraging" 13 per cent rise in taxable profits to £10.47 million for the six months to end-June on turnover up 13.3 per cent to £145.25 million. Earnings per share increased 12.6 per cent to 8p. The interim dividend is 8p (7p).

The company said its Provident Personal Credit subsidiary had benefited from specialising in serving the non-homeowning sector which was "less affected by high interest rates than customers of most other finance houses".

Provident soars 13%

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Change of name for trim EHP

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

EUROPEAN Home Products, the retail group is celebrating its financial rehabilitation with a change of name. EHP will be called Scholl Plc. It disposed of the Singer sewing machine distribution business earlier this year.

Scholl foot care products now account for 80 per cent of EHP's business. In addition, it has a cosmetics company in France and licensing agreements for a range of personal care products.

The group made pre-tax profits of £11.5 million for the six months to end-June, down from £17.1 million. But last time's figure was boosted by £10.4 million from the sale of the Scholl factory and warehouse in London. Sales fell from £188 million to £87.3 million. There is an extraordinary credit of £3.29 million from disposals. Earnings per share fell from 16.5p to 10.3p. The interim dividend is unchanged at 2.5p. EHP shares rose 3p to 134p.

Psion hit by modem business

By ANGELA MACKAY

A POOR performance by its modem business and rising overheads cut interim pre-tax profits at Psion, the electronics group specialising in mobile computers, from £1.6 million to £1.4 million.

Shares in the company dropped to a low of 59p before recovering to finish at 69p. Two months ago, the company issued a profits warning which caused the shares to fall 35p to 90p.

Dacom, maker of a sophisticated modem, was bought by Psion for £4.5 million two years ago, but, in spite of major changes, lost £550,000 in the half and turnover was 44 per cent lower.

Costs rose within Psion itself to support the company's new range. David Potter, chairman and managing director, said he expected "a significant advance in sales during the second half". Overall, turnover rose 8.4 per cent to £15.4 million. The interim dividend was steady at 1p.

COMPANY BRIEFS

PORVAIR (Int)	The first half year is described by the board as encouraging and a satisfactory result is expected for the full year.
Pre-tax: £0.6m (£0.4m)	
EPS: 4.9p (3.3p)	
Div: 1.0p (0.9p)	
LAMBERT HOWARTH (Int)	Trading in the second half year remains good but the second half improvement will not be so great because of seasonal factors.
Pre-tax: £1.3m (£0.7m)	
EPS: 16.4p (9.7p)	
Div: 3.6p (3.0p)	
ROPNER (Int)	The company also enjoyed an extraordinary profit of £3.45 million on the sale of two vessels.
Pre-tax: £5.0m (£2.9m)	
EPS: 7.7p (7.0p)	
Div: 3.7p (3.0p)	
DELANEY GROUP (Int)	Loss compares with a profit of £32.9 million last year. A better second half is expected because of seasonal factors.
Pre-tax: £0.5m loss	
EPS: 2.4p loss (0.7p)	
Div: Nil (1.3p)	
OSPREY COMM	Final results for the current year are described as encouraging. Record profits are expected.
Pre-tax: £1.6m (£1.1m)	
EPS: 8.38p (9.63p)	
Div: 4.35p (3.6p)	
SHORCO GROUP (Int)	Company does not expect second half to show any improvement on the first because of conditions in the construction industry.
Pre-tax: £0.4m (£0.4m)	
EPS: 9.1p loss (9.7p)	
Div: 2.4p (2.0p)	
EFT GROUP (Int)	Full-time profits are predicted to be lower than last year's but are still expected to be "reasonable" in the second half.
Pre-tax: £0.4m (£0.7m)	
EPS: 0.87p (1.52p)	
Div: 0.3p (0.3p)	
DUNTON GROUP (Fin)	Loss compares with a profit of £1.1 million last time. The board is "cautious" about the short-term outlook.
Pre-tax: £1.84m loss	
EPS: 0.708 loss (3.56p)	
Div: 0.46p (1.0p)	
PARAMBE (Int)	Profit compares with one of £19,000 in the previous half-year. Net asset value per share was 79.0p (82.2p).
Pre-tax: £61,000	
EPS: 0.66p (0.21p)	
Div: 0.55p (0.5p)	
KINGSPAN (Int)	Figures are in Irish currency. Company says that it is well placed for growth in the remainder of the current year.
Pre-tax: £1.7m (£1.25m)	
EPS: 5.72p (4.55p)	
Div: 1p (nil)	

INTERIM RESULTS 1990

- All five of IMI's business areas achieved increased profits in first half of 1990 compared with the same period in 1989.
- Total IMI pre-tax profits for first half year 1990 rose to £63.5m compared with £60.1m in 1989.
- Earnings per share improved to 12.8p (from 12.1p) and an increase in interim dividend to 4.2p per share (from 3.8p) reflect these results.

"...we continue to place great emphasis on a strong balance sheet and, with a well diversified and geographically spread product portfolio, we remain in good shape to maintain IMI's progress."

Sir Eric Pountain, Chairman

IMI

FLUID POWER • DRINKS DISPENSE • BUILDING PRODUCTS • SPECIAL ENGINEERING • REFINED AND WROUGHT METALS

Join us! in files

Welcome mats have been few and far between for companies wishing to invest directly in Japan. Obstacles, both direct and indirect, have been placed across the paths of those wishing to buy, and while joint ventures and minority shareholdings are now not particularly unusual, full takeovers of Japanese companies are still rare.

In part, this is the result of the high valuations placed on Japanese companies by the markets. Despite the sharp fall in the Tokyo market, which began before the Gulf crisis and has accelerated during it, price/earnings ratios are still high enough to bring a tear to the eye of any British company looking to the London market for equity finance. Japanese institutions are chock-full of cash and, given that profits for corporate Japan are still rising while those of European companies are under pressure, Tokyo equity prices are likely to stay ahead of Western markets.

The imbalance between investment in Japanese companies by foreign companies and vice

Japan spreads a corporate zabuton

COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

verso is 24 to one. In the year to March 31 this year, according to Japanese figures, foreign investment in Japanese companies totalled only \$2.8 billion. Direct investment overseas by Japanese companies was \$67.5 billion.

This imbalance has finally come to the attention of the Tokyo authorities, and there is to be a mission to Europe to encourage direct investment in Japanese companies, an apparent reversal of the traditional stance.

The roadshow will visit London, Rome and Brussels and will hold seminars for manufacturers, banks and management consultants to explain Japanese markets, soft loan schemes and other measures to attract foreign firms, according to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

In part, the move to correct the imbalance stems from the need for Japan to boost imports, and foreign owned firms do tend to be importers. But equally, it looks as

if the Japanese have realised that if their own companies are to be allowed to continue to buy up chunks of corporate Europe, they had better allow easier access to their own crown jewels.

CBI initiative

London's gilt-edged and currency dealers have transfix themselves on the idea that John Major will fix sterling against the mark in the exchange-rate mechanism over the coming weekend to coincide with the European Community finance ministers' meeting and upset the party conferences. If this eccentric political move is made, the Confederation of British

Industry's economic team would, of necessity, have its wish that the pound should go in at near DM3 rather than DM2.60, which is nearer the average real exchange rate over the past few years, or DM2.75, around which it traded for much of this year.

Many of the CBI's more prominent manufacturing members, who will not formally be asked to endorse the plan to beat inflation, might take a different view.

Entry at a high level would either knock out a lot of chemical, building materials and engineering plants permanently or force a humiliating devaluation later on, which would certainly not help exorcise Britain's inflation psychology.

The economists, with the approval of Sir Brian Corby, the CBI president, have chosen a painful approach to the enduring inflation problem. They advocate a prolonged semi-recession in home demand, backed up by high interest rates, and countenance higher personal tax rates if needed to keep fiscal policy tight.

The proposed campaign for stable prices is none the less a brave contribution to the economic debate and will surely influence the manifestos of both political parties. The CBI has not been famed in the past for demanding a hard line when its members are suffering more by the week.

If pay bargainers need to cure themselves of inflation psychology, industry also needs to wean itself from an implicit reliance on a pool of cheap new labour for expansion.

Immigration, the school-leaver bulge and higher participation rates have all run their course. West Germany can look East, but Britain needs to plan well ahead to achieve long-term price stability. At present, there is little evidence that the problem is being addressed with any urgency.

TEMPUS

Trying harder at Bowater

IT WAS hard for Bowater to see its share price clipped sharply after an impressive trading performance in the past six months, especially when shareholders were spared the second half warning that accompanied other trading statements yesterday.

But then the share price has outperformed the market by more than 30 per cent over the period, and it was not a good day for the market generally.

There was, too, a spot of downgrading by the analysts, who are fretting over the disappointing result from Australia, where the recession and delays in putting new equipment into production has halved original expectations of a £10 million profit this year.

Bowater's highly regarded management, which has taken what corrective action it can and is now prepared to sit it out, otherwise justified its star rating by squeezing almost two full points out of its operating margins, at 8.1 per cent.

The team was even able to bring a better return out of the Norton Opax purchase, whose first time contribution was somewhat overshadowed by the resultant surge in the interest bill, from £4 million to £11.5 million.

Last May's rights issue and the subsequent sale of Crossley Builders' Merchants have since returned gearing levels

to respectability, from 131 per cent to 33 per cent, and by the year-end it should be back to about 27 per cent.

The interest charge will drop just as dramatically in the second half, but it is still difficult to see Bowater making much for the full year, given the static nature of its market-place at present.

On full dilution, this would mean only a fractional improvement in earnings, to about 54.6p, suggesting a p/e/earnings ratio of 8.9. This seems fair enough.

Sedgwick

THE near-10 per cent fall in Sedgwick's share price yesterday was perhaps overdone. The figures themselves, showing pre-tax profits up 3 per cent at £26.7 million, were no real surprise. Rather, it was the depressingly cautious statement on the outlook for North American rates that the market did not like.

Followers of the sector have been anticipating a hardening in North American premium rates since the spate of environmental and industrial disasters of the late Eighties. These hopes pushed the sector to p/e ratios in the mid-30s less than a year ago. But for a market suffering from the level of overcapacity that currently exists in North American insurance, only a

million, show an overall margin improvement to 11.6 per cent, with returns on only two out of five divisions slipping slightly.

Sedgwick has followed some order and business weakness in the second quarter, which may not be easy to arrest, but IMI's success in Continental Europe – and in West Germany in particular – is making up much of the ground lost in America and Britain. Titanium interests continue to benefit from strong markets.

Building products could find the second half tough, and the fluid power operations will struggle while American and British economies remain weak.

Year-end estimates have been trimmed from £133 million to £129 million, which will stand against the actual £125 million seen in 1989, but at least that will still be growth against the trend.

While many other engineering concerns are merely holding interim payments, IMI is raising its dividend from 3.8p to 4.2p a share. The balance sheet remains strong, with gearing only a few points higher at 8 per cent, and there has been no pain on the bad debt front.

The prospective p/e of 7.9, backed by a 6.9 per cent yield, gives the shares appeal for portfolios with the longer term in mind.

Stalking the City jungle in search of elusive ethics



Seeking standards: Rosamund Thomas in Cambridge

tion ahead of Big Bang, such as the Financial Services Act, and progressive deal making.

The centre also postulates that a shift in emphasis in the education system away from religious tuition in schools and the study of philosophy in universities toward economics and similar subjects has helped to erode the sound foundation of corporate leadership and organisation.

In its sponsorship brochure, the centre, which is affiliated to the university in Cambridge and has corporate sponsors such as National Westminster Bank, British Gas, Cadbury Schweppes and the Confederation of British Industry, says the law and codes of conduct often lag behind change in business practice

and progressive deal making.

The centre also postulates that a shift in emphasis in the education system away from religious tuition in schools and the study of philosophy in universities toward economics and similar subjects has helped to erode the sound foundation of corporate leadership and organisation.

An interesting development in the past few years has been the willingness of professional advisers to sail close to the wind, not to lie their own pockets, but to please the

ANGELA MACKAY

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Personal touch

ELIZABETH Sullivan, the second woman admitted to the floor of the Stock Exchange, is moving on. One of the best-known and most flamboyant women in the Square Mile, Sullivan, aged 38, who suffered the nickname Sweaty Betty during her days as a dealer on the stock market floor, was almost unbeatable when she gave up stockbroking to become a recruitment consultant two years ago. Now she is branching out on her own, with the creation of Elizabeth Sullivan Associates, based at "the best end" of Southwark Street and backed by more than a dozen highly placed City individuals. "They are terrified of giving their names," says Sullivan coyly, "because they have all done it on their personal accounts." However, she is confident that their involvement will not only prove a sound investment, but will guarantee her "head hunting" work from almost every leading securities house. Her office, open for business this week, is opposite the firm of Keith Bayley Rogers where she worked for 18 years. "I was a senior dealer, dealing mostly for Murrough O'Brien, whose clients included Maxwell Joseph," she recalls.

Pension Fund Management as a director

AND Clegg, aged 42, who spent four years at Barings, is following in the footsteps of Colin Day, now chairman of HPPM, who held a similar position with the firm in the late Seventies. "I am keen to improve links with clients," says Clegg, who left Barings at the end of July and has spent the past month playing golf and umpiring cricket matches – in between bouts of gardening at his home in Wimborne, Hampshire.

SIGN outside a church in Bristol: "We are soul agents."

Pandora's boxes

TO MILLIONS of football followers, it might be "lucky" Arsenal, but to corporate occupants of the Gunners' executive boxes, the north London club is proving to be a good luck anything, but a good luck charm. Among the box holders listed in the programme for last weekend's match against Spurs were Parfield Group and British & Commonwealth Holdings, both now in administrative receivership. According to Parfield administrator Michael Jordan, of Cork Gully – a Derby County fan himself – the nine-year lease on the box is now up for sale for £100,000, but it has yet to find any takers. It stood empty on Saturday. Meanwhile, fears that Arsenal would have to join the list of Parfield creditors because of an unpaid drinks and entertainments bill, accrued last season, were allayed by Ken Friar, the club's managing director. "The bill has since been settled," he said. "There is no amount outstanding." The source of this payment remains a mystery to Jordan, however. "That comes as news to me," he retorted. Meanwhile, the club also seems to have escaped unscathed from the British & Commonwealth débâcle as its contents of casual polo shirts brought in for cleaning. "More people seem to have been playing squash in the hot weather," says Holt, aged 24, who adds that Ralph Lauren is especially popular with American brokers. And customers seem to be growing more careless about the contents of their pockets, sending everything from air tickets, casino chips and £20 notes with the line. "We are not in the habit of laundering money," adds Holt, who insists the valuables are returned to their owners.

CAROL LEONARD



"It looks like ERM fever."

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Property slump hits Sharpe & Fisher

By JONATHAN PRYNN
REDUCED demand for building products and lower property development profits have resulted in a 62.4 per cent slump in interim pre-tax profits at Sharpe & Fisher.

Pre-tax profits for the six months to end-June were £831,000, against £2.27 million for the comparable period last year. Sales were virtually unchanged at £23.26 million.

Operating profits were down only 35 per cent but the bottom line was hit by a six-fold increase in the interest charge to £625,000.

However, the company, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, has since sold a property in Cardiff, which has reduced borrowings to close to the level of the start of the year.

The interim dividend is being maintained at last year's 1.5p. However, the company said that "this should not be taken as an indication of the level of dividend for the year as a whole".

Because of the current uncertain conditions "no decision for the appropriate level of dividend for 1990 will be taken until the full year's results are known".

Both the two main trading activities of the group were severely hit by the property downturn. Housing starts in Sharpe & Fisher's trading areas have almost halved, the company said. However, rental income from owned properties rose by 24 per cent.

Reebok 'still in running' for Pentland's 32% stake

From MATTHEW BOND IN MUNICH

PAUL Fireman, the chief executive officer of Reebok, has not given up hope of buying Pentland's 32 per cent stake in the company he founded.

He said: "Pentland is our marketing its stake. I think we should see how they do first. Nothing is off the agenda completely. If the opportunity comes to talk with Pentland, we'll certainly revisit it."

Mr Fireman, who until recently was one of America's highest paid executives, said he did not think that finding the finance to buy the stake would be "an overwhelming problem".

Mr Fireman was speaking at Ispo, the Munich sports trade fair. At the same fair a year ago, he launched the Pump, the innovative air-filled sports shoe on which much of Reebok's future depends. Having started life as a basketball shoe maker, Reebok has extended the pump range to tennis, golf, fitness training, running and walking. A pump football boot is planned to coincide with the European launch of the Pump next spring. Reebok hopes to sell 6 million pairs worldwide next year, double its projected 1990 sales. In Britain, a pair of Pumps retail at up to £129.99.

Last week, Pentland announced that it was no longer actively marketing its Reebok stake because of unsettled economic conditions worldwide. Stephen Rubin, vice-chairman of Pentland, who was also visiting Ispo, said: "Things are difficult for everyone at the moment, but Reebok's underlying past is terrific. So we're in no hurry." Mr Rubin said that while Pentland was looking for a friendly buyer, that situation would not last forever.

However, Reebok's future had not been unsettled by Pentland's decision to sell. Mr Fireman said: "An investment is only a great investment if you can cash it in one day."

Sales of Reebok shoes have already been affected by the slowdown in the American economy. "There may be some slight softening of sales in the third quarter," said John Duerdan, president of Reebok.

Reebok's second-quarter figures had shown sales rising by 22 per cent to \$527 million, although net profits had grown by only 6.4 per cent to \$43 million. Mr Duerdan said there was general apprehension about prospects next year.

Mr Fireman hit the headlines in July, when he took an \$11.6 million a year pay cut after the restructuring of the Reebok bonus system. Asked if that had affected his motivation, he said: "I'm still motivated. Money is not what motivates me. I'm part of the company that excites me. That's what motivates me."



If the shoe fits: Paul Fireman wearing Reebok's Pump

Half-time profits rise 29% at MTM

By OUR CITY STAFF

MTM, a manufacturer of specialist chemicals, reported a 29.3 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £3.3 million for the six months to end-June.

Sales expanded 6 per cent to £16.2 million. The interim dividend is being raised by 21.4 per cent to 1.7p. ordinary earnings per share up from 7.8p to 8.6p.

Richard Lines, the chairman, said that demand in each area remained "at a good level" and he remained optimistic about the rest of the year.

The increase was generated primarily by the company's two fastest growing markets, continental Europe and America.

The proportion of sales in Britain fell from 53 per cent last year to 45 per cent this year. Mr Lines said that this would continue to decline.

MTM's American manufacturing capacity will be doubled through the \$15.5 million acquisition of Orsynex Corporation. The price includes \$10 million of assumed debt.

The company is also pursuing opportunities in Eastern Europe through collaboration with Lachema, the Czechoslovak producer of chemicals.

Mr Lines said: "A window of opportunity has emerged in the fine chemicals market for the provision of high quality production capability to the leading participants."

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Daily Value (£)	Daily change (£)	Yearly change (£)	Daily chng % (%)	Yearly chng % (%)	Daily range (£)	Yearly range (£)
The World (free)	592.5	-1.4	-29.8	-1.0	-20.3	-1.2	-18.1
EAFE (free)	113.0	-1.4	-29.9	-1.1	-21.2	-1.2	-18.3
1035.1	-1.7	-33.5	-1.6	-25.1	-1.4	-22.6	
106.0	-1.7	-33.5	-1.7	-26.5	-1.4	-22.9	
Euros (free)	632.8	-1.4	-16.8	-1.4	-13.2	-1.2	-3.1
136.0	-1.4	-16.8	-1.7	-13.2	-1.2	-3.1	
Nth America	418.8	-1.0	-22.2	-0.7	-9.3	-0.7	-9.3
Nordic (free)	1347.9	-1.3	-13.4	-1.3	-6.3	-1.0	-6.3
Pacific	216.2	-0.7	-8.1	-0.7	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5
Far East	2262.5	-1.8	-43.0	-1.7	-33.9	-1.8	-33.5
Australia	2342.8	-1.9	-43.9	-1.8	-34.8	-1.7	-34.6
Austria	285.2	0.1	-17.9	0.1	-7.3	0.3	-4.3
Belgium	1486.7	-1.8	-1.8	-1.8	-8.8	-1.6	-16.6
Canada	749.1	-1.6	-23.9	-1.6	-19.2	-1.4	-11.3
Denmark	443.7	-0.5	-26.1	-0.1	-14.0	-0.3	-13.9
Finland	1191.9	-1.0	-9.5	-1.0	-3.2	-0.7	-5.5
(free)	82.0	-0.4	-28.8	-0.5	-23.9	-0.2	-17.1
France	110.1	0.7	-26.2	0.7	-21.0	1.0	-13.9
Germany	606.4	-1.7	-25.0	-1.7	-20.1	-1.4	-12.6
Hong Kong	757.9	-1.7	-17.4	-1.8	-10.2	-1.5	-3.7
Italy	250.0	-1.9	-23.5	-1.8	-17.4	-1.7	-10.6
Japan	3400.9	-2.0	-44.9	-1.8	-35.9	-1.8	-35.7
Netherlands	768.4	-0.5	-18.7	-0.5	-11.8	-0.2	-5.3
New Zealand	76.4	-2.3	-25.9	-2.4	-16.8	-2.1	-13.6
Norway	1415.1	0.0	5.4	0.1	13.6	0.2	22.9
Portugal	251.7	0.3	7.8	0.3	16.2	0.5	25.8
SG/Malay	1611.8	-0.7	-19.2	-0.5	-12.8	-0.4	-5.8
Spain	183.4	-2.3	-22.5	-2.2	-16.8	-2.0	-9.7
Sweden	1465.9	-1.9	-16.4	-1.9	-9.0	-1.7	-2.6
(free)	211.6	-1.2	-12.6	-1.2	-4.8	-0.9	-1.9
Switzerland	775.5	-1.5	-15.2	-1.4	-15.9	-1.2	-12
(free)	116.8	-1.5	-16.3	-1.5	-16.8	-1.3	-2.4
UK	634.7	-1.2	-12.0	-1.2	-12.0	-0.9	-2.6
USA	377.7	-1.0	-21.8	-0.8	-8.8	-0.8	-8.9

(per £) Local currency

Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International

ALPHA STOCKS

Vol 000	Vol 000	Vol 000	Vol 000
ADT	58	Copson	2393
Abbey Nat	217.8	Courtaulds	330
Aerospace	1,000	Coulters	147
Anglo	450	Drake	4,477
Argos	555	EDC	155
ASDA	2,027	Enterprise	929
ASDA Foods	2,027	Ferranti	4,421
Avon	753	Fisons	1,411
BAA	910	FTI	207
BET	441	Gen Acc	504
BTR	1,221	GEC	1,173
Burnham Inv	3,033	Globe	258
Burscough	1,777	Globe Ind	312
Bass	574	Grange	1,006
Beazer	193	Grand Met	3,026
Bernard Inv	101	GPO	1,125
Beta Circle	1,000	GKN	921
BOC	259	Guinness	1,999
Boco	1,337	Harms	25
BPE	493	Hanson	2,001
BTC	2,723	Hawker	344
Bt Awards	105	Hawkins	2,290
Bt Land	105	IHI	378
Bt Petrol	5,236	Imperial	92
Bt Telecom	6,034	Inchcape	521
Bundi	1,025	Kingfisher	1,775
Burton	2,277	Ladbrokes	1,750
Buzzard	275	Laing	1,213
Cadbury	93	Lamro	359
Cairn	24	Land Securities	1,202
Caron	720	Leeds	93
Cash	489	Lloyds	1,255
CU	303	Loyd's	1,132

Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International

MAJOR INDICES

New York	London	Tokyo	Paris	RISSES:
Dow Jones	2688.37 (-25.99)	2497.64 (-51.79)	3210.10 (-24.67)	530p (+10.5)
S&P Composite	320.10 (-2.46)			
Tokyo				
Nikkei Average				
Hong Kong				
Hotels				
Amsterdam				
CBS Tendency				
Sydney: ACI				
Frankfurt: DAX				
Brussels: CAC				
Zurich: SKA Gen				
London:				
FT -A All-Share	1043.83 (-8.65)	1043.83 (-8.65)	1043.83 (-8.65)	276p (-9)
FT - 500	1151.50 (-9.46)	1151.50 (-9.46)	1151.50 (-9.46)	558p (-20)
FTG Mines	196.3 (-1.19)	196.3 (-1.19)	196.3 (-1.19)	472p (+20)</td

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Portfolio

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From your Portfolio Platinum card, check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If not, win, follow the claim procedure on the back of the card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began August 20. Dealings end September 7. \$Contango day September 10. Settlement day September 17.
\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

(VOLUMES: PAGE 24)

Portfolio

PLATINUM

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DAILY DIVIDEND
\$6,000

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Claimants should ring 0254-53272

No.	Company	Group	Gals of oil
1	Hanover Driller	Property	
2	Levi	Transport	
3	Cookson (aa)	Industrials A-D	
4	Regalman	Properties	
5	Roscaugh	Property	
6	Tunstall	Electricals	
7	STC (aa)	Electricals	
8	Ocean Wilson	Transport	
9	Burford	Properties	
10	Fremantle Hotels	Hotels, Caterers	
11	Catchpole Robey	Building, Roads	
12	Cobra Ent	Industrials A-D	
13	Aggs Gp	Paper, Print, Ads	
14	How Gp	Building, Roads	
15	Pendragon	Motors, Aircraft	
16	LASMO (aa)	Oil/Gas	
17	PJ Carroll	Tobaccos	
18	Meccanis (aa)	Drapers, Stores	
19	Trofeser H (aa)	Industrials S-Z	
20	Bodycote	Industrials A-D	
21	Smith Beech (aa)	Industrials S-Z	
22	McAlpine (Affiliated)	Building, Roads	
23	Ranger	Oil/Gas	
24	Symore	Industrials S-Z	
25	Fisons	Chemicals, Plas.	
26	Virco	Drapers, Stores	
27	Smith David	Paper, Print, Ads	
28	Elli & Everard	Chemical, Plas.	
29	Aran Energy	Oil/Gas	
30	Kronen	Paper, Print, Ads	
31	Fuchs-RS	Paper, Print, Ads	
32	Lloyds (aa)	Banks, Discount	
33	Bailey (Ben) Cosse	Building, Roads	
34	Monument	Oil/Gas	
35	Brunting	Paper, Print, Ads	
36	Poly Peck (aa)	Foods	
37	Stough Estates (aa)	Properties	
38	Prico	Electricals	
39	Providence Alexander	Industrials L-R	
40	Bobby (I)	Industrials A-D	
41	Shell (aa)	Oil/Gas	
42	Nicholas (UN) (Vimto)	Foods	
43	Reuters (aa)	Industrials L-R	
44	GRG	Banks, Discount	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd.	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend					
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £4,000 will be added to today's competition.

BRITISH FUNDS

No.	High/Low Stock	Price	Change	Int. Yield	Gross Yield
SHORTS (Under Five Years)					
86	Exch C	1000	-	5.1%	5.1%
87	Exch T	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
88	Exch T	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
89	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
90	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
91	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
92	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
93	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
94	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
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167	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
168	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
169	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
170	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
171	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
172	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
173	Exch S	1000	-	5.0%	5.0%
1					

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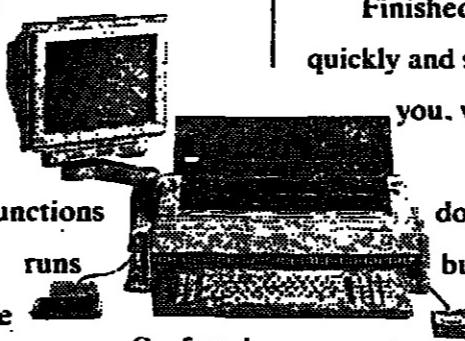
Our references

As the largest European manufacturer of PCs and typewriters, Olivetti's resources have allowed us to develop the ETV 4000S. It's unique for a typewriter in that it can scan pictures and graphics to place

within the text. Up to 7 different typefaces can be adjusted in size to make every document look professionally typeset. In fact the page you're now reading has been produced on the ETV 4000S.

Education

Although it performs all the functions of a WP and runs PC software, the



keyboard is just like any other typewriter, so you don't need a degree in computing. Packages are displayed on the sharpest of screens

and are operated by dedicated keys and a simple click of the mouse. You'll find using the mouse and keyboard together is much quicker.

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The ETV's packages also produce charts or graphs, present

figures and one acts as a sophisticated filofax system.

Press a button, and it will even print out dinner invitations to send to your senior clients.

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If you want your documents to mean business apply to Olivetti

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Classical Concerts

College Leaver - £810,000

This is a lovely opening within a small, yet very well known, charitable organisation. Classical music concerts, balls, dress shows, etc. all play a part in their high-profile fund-raising activities. As a fully integrated member of their small, friendly team you will enjoy involvement in all these aspects and share with them the satisfaction of supporting a wholly worthwhile cause. Good secretarial skills (90/50) are a must, as is a flexible, open approach and a willingness to tackle anything and everything. An interest in classical music is desirable but not essential. For further details, please call 071-493 5787.

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PA to Chairman Publishing - £14,000

This is an exceptional opportunity for a confident, self-motivated individual. As PA to Divisional Chairman of his major international publishing house you will work closely on a one-to-one basis, handling board-level liaison; direct dealings with authors, agents, editors and co-ordination of private/personal affairs. Additionally you will administer company charity budget and be encouraged to take on the screening of manuscripts etc. Accurate skills (100/60) essential. Literary leavings desirable. Age guide: 20-30 years. Please call today on 071-493 0713.

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MERRYWEATHER

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE STAFF

We have an immediate vacancy for a secretary to join a small team in a busy office looking after Corporate membership and the organisation of special events. Accurate typing, a flexible approach, tactful telephone manner and a sense of humour are essential. A knowledge of Wordstar would be an advantage.

Starting salary not less than £10,000 per annum.

Please apply with a full C.V. and contact telephone number to the Personnel Manager, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9DD by Friday September 14th.

THE ROH IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

ADMINISTRATOR/PA Holborn, to £20,000 pa

World's leading Strategic Consultant to the legal profession requires an experienced Secretary to organise and run a newly established London office under the direction of one of Europe's principal experts in this field. Will suit a mature, efficient, good and highly professional person 30-50 yrs. Languages an asset, esp German or French (no S/Hand reqd).

CLC Language Services & Co. (inc.)
6 Buckingham Street, London WC1N 8BU

PA to the Director of Finance and Administration

£18,000

We are looking for a very well organised and mature person with an excellent secretarial background, practical knowledge of administration in an entrepreneurial environment and experience of contract personnel practice.

You must be capable of working on your own initiative and taking responsibility for much of the day to day personal and general administration of the group reporting to the Director. To be successful, you will need to have developed good communication skills and have the ability to establish this new role in a constructive and responsive manner.

To develop a very satisfying career with this successful small financial services group, based in West End, apply to Box Number 1278.

MANAGER RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY GUILDFORD SALARY NEGOTIABLE

Heading the Recruitment Consultancy Division of our training company, you'll be very soon communication skills and an excellent track record in sales.

With up to 250 Secretaries and PA's completing their training with us each year and looking for employment, you will not be short of excellent candidates.

We also have a unique client base. The Consultancy is involved with Permanent and Temporary staff and you will be building a team to take advantage of our very special opportunities.

Please call Holmes on 081-84447 or send your CV to us at LCB American Express 21 & 22 Grosvenor Park, SW1P 2BD. (No Agencies).

At Judy Fisher we hunt only certain species



We cast our net to capture secretaries with interest in publishing, TV, media, music, advertising & PR.

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Charm is the watchword for this busy position at a blue-chip firm of Stockbrokers in EC2. Based on the executive floor, you'll be meeting clients, liaising with various staff members, organising refreshments and conference rooms and maintaining a calm and friendly manner at all times. City reception experience is a must, as is the willingness to take advantage of the paid overtime on occasions.

Age: 22-35. Please telephone Estate Marsden on 071-256 5018.

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FASHION P.R. PA/SECRETARY

£12,000

An in-house press office for a fashion chain. Come in and discuss with your good shorthand having other skills. If you're mathematical and well experienced with an interest in fashion and press, then call now on

071 266 2030
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High Interest

Caught in a secretarial backwater? Let Finesse set your career back on course to success. As a secretary in the busy Public Relations department of this progressive multinational you'll be right in the front line. Issuing press releases, co-ordinating PR campaigns and organising press conferences will involve liaising with the press, public government and top clients. It's a fast, unpredictable environment guaranteed to keep your interest level high, requiring both an innate sense of urgency and a cool head in a crisis. Excellent prospects and all the benefits expected from a large corporation. £15,000. Specialists for young career secretaries. 071-734 2808

FINESSE
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UNIVERSITY OF KENT AT CANTERBURY ■■■■ Personal Assistant to Vice Chancellor

This is an opportunity for a bright, ambitious individual who seeks real involvement with people and issues at the highest level.

As Personal Assistant to Vice Chancellor who is the University's principal academic and administrative officer, you will have a varied and complex brief. While managing his busy office, you will assist in planning, and organisation, day-to-day correspondence, report drafting, background briefing, and will act as a focal point for contact both within the University and with outside bodies. Judgement, discretion and the ability to work under pressure will be no less essential than a good education, almost certainly to degree level, and developed secretarial skills using the latest office technology.

Salary within the range £14,038 - £18,165 per annum.

For further details and application forms, please contact quoting reference ASY/B - The Personnel Officer, The Registry, The University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ. Closing date for completed applications is 28th September, 1990.

An Equal Opportunities Employer.

Fast Shorthand £16,500 early review

Totaly reliable, efficient, forward thinking and on the ball, this is what the senior Director of large and successful insurance business requires of his PA. He delegates well, his home is abroad, involves worldwide travel, countless meetings and social engagements. There's also personal work, minute meetings and organising receptions and conferences. An insurance background and European languages an advantage and excellent skills of 100 wpm a must! Age 22-38. Please call Elizabeth Williamson on 071-256 5018.

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Are you a 'People Person' with drive, enthusiasm and who thrives in a competitive environment? We are a leading international personnel consultancy who can offer you first class training, real career development and an excellent salary package.

If you possess a minimum of 5 years commercial experience preferably in a sales/service industry call Amanda Dobbs on 071-734 0811.

EUROPEAN MEDIA COMPANY Needs a

SECRETARY/ OFFICE MANAGER

To supervise international travel arrangements, run the office and produce elegant documents for a small team of senior executives. No s/b but w/o skills essential.

Initiative and European travel experience an advantage. Salary £11,500 p.a.

CV to European Communication Management, 9-28 Ladbroke Grove, London W11 3BD.

£17,000 TOP AUDIO SECRETARY

80 wpm (Canon 830)
Small busy professional office, W1. We need 'A' levels, hard work, good presentation and good all round office experience.

NON SMOKER 27 PLUS

Please Phone 071 486 9524

or fax CV to: 071 224 3164

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Working for Chairman and two Directors in small H.Q. in SW5. Audio shorthand, WP, general accounts knowledge useful. Challenging but varied job, responsible job requiring flexibility and enthusiasm. Salary £12,000-£14,000 but commensurate with experience.

Please send CV to Chairman marked Private and Confidential. Suite 11, 50 Silverton Road, London SW5 2XZ.

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WORK LOCALLY

— W.10
£17,18,000 + 23 days
hols + share options

Cut the commuting - join this major pic as senior secretary to the Finance Director. He is late 30's, hardworking but good fun, we are told. He hates admin so it's all you'll - the other 50% is the usual shorthand/secretarial aspect. You are 30+, have some financial experience and want more information? Call us on...

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POSITIVELY
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£18,000

You will draft correspondence, type speeches and organise diaries, meetings and lunches as PA to this high profile and very senior level man. You have a positive personality, good audio skills and commercial conveyancing experience although there is minimal legal typing.

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£21,000 + PACKAGE
BANKING
SUPERSTAR

The man is a powerhouse - tough, demanding and hardworking but then he's got a top job with a major bank in SW1. You will be involved in the preparation of full PA roles. Years are 25-30+, with previous banking experience and 100kpm shorthand. £15,000 + mortgage worth another £8,000 + paid overage etc.

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The Secretarial Consultants

INSURANCE

£16,000+

You will arrange board and management meetings, prepare the papers and provide a full personal secretary/assistant role to the FD at a major insurance group in the City. Shorthand at 100 is essential and there is lots of audio. Benefits are excellent including a £500 lunch allowance and up to £500 travel subsidy.

Call 071/377 2666 City
071/439 7001 West End

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The Secretarial Consultants

£20,000

COMMERCIAL
SPANISH

Get involved in projects in the high profile role as PA to the MD of a major insurance firm in SW1. The environment is dynamic and your boss is energetic but fair-thinking. Able to work under pressure, you are 25-30+ with both shorthand and audio skills.

Call 071/439 7001 West End
071/377 2666 City

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The Secretarial Consultants

SOMETHING
DIFFERENT

£17,000 + bonus

This is it. The exclusive role you've been waiting for. Based in plush Mayfair offices you will be an integral member of this exciting new development within one of the world's most successful communications companies. Dealing on a global basis with the development of cable TV and other related high-tech innovations you will provide an efficient secretarial support role to team of young and ambitious Executives. Flexibility is the key to an opening that will provide opportunity, challenge and a financially rewarding future. Please call Katie Doul on 071 491 1858.

La Crème

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HOW "PERKY"
ARE YOU
FEELING
TODAY?W R I G H T O N
PERSONNEL

Would a workout in the Corporate gym help? Private health care, perhaps. Four weeks annual holiday. You see our clients (some of the most prestigious law firms in London) realise that there's more to life than LV'S and Season Ticket loans. But they haven't forgotten about excellent salaries either. Between £14,500 and £17,250 p.a. is on offer. So get your adrenalin pumping by calling 071 374 6161 NOW.

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and PRIOR
SOLICITORS

DIBB LUPTON BROOMHEAD & PRIOR. A leading UK firm of Solicitors based in London, Sheffield, Leeds, Manchester and Bromley, is seeking to recruit a WP Supervisor for its London office.

Applicants must have the ability to be able to give WP training to all new staff, have good practical knowledge and experience of hardware and software and be able to liaise with staff on all levels.

This important role in the maintenance and development of our digital dec system will require some out of hours working, commitment and enthusiasm. Please write with CV and current salary to:

Elizabeth Pier
Dibb Lupton Broomhead & Prior,
23-28 Temple Bar House,
Fleet Street,
London EC4Y 1AA.
Telephone 071-936 3333.

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A CAREER

Make an important contribution to the fascinating advances commanding this top Executive. A great copy-writer working on copywriting, creative and design work - even design. Computer skills and rapidly rising.

Highly
responsible
role for PAto
Shorthand, in WP and audio

17,500

ADVERTISING
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Exciting at 20! A new position in newly created creative group working on interesting accounts. Minimum account typing, some correspondence. A dependant you ready to assist account handlers and planners in this fast moving advertising scene. Apple and Word perfect. Good presentation skills and some audio. A challenge to versatility. £13,500

ADVERTISING
CHALLENGE

Confidence and ambition needed in the midst of a newly merged group who need you to be the pivot coping with phones, arranging meetings, for copy and correspondence. Lots of liaison amongst group of executives, presentations, meetings, etc. to arrange. All go got £12,000

MUSIC MUSIC
MUSIC

Our Client, a brilliant mix of creativity and business talent in Music production and recordings, is looking for a highly knowledgeable supportive PA. Age 20-30+ with a degree in Music or equivalent. Good secretarial skills and musical experience and involvement in the music industry especially PR and Marketing. An ideal person keenly interested in music who will quickly identify with its priorities. c£18,000.

JOYCE
GUINNESS17,500
£15,800
£12,500
£10,000Legal Eagle
£18,000

Influential and respected Partner of a major City legal firm is looking for a true PA.

Commercial conveyancing experience is a must but there is little legal typing. Responsibilities will be two-fold: to run his high-profile professional life and to act as secretarial co-ordinator for the department (c70). Liaison with personnel and fee-earners, floats and secretaries requires diplomacy and exceptional organisational skills. This is the chance to add responsibility to your career if you are 28-40 with good audio/WP skills (don't forget the commercial conveyancing experience).

Please telephone Catherine Ferguson on 071-588 3535.

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

TEMPORARIES.
EARN £17,000 + HOLIDAY PAY

Ritz enjoys an excellent reputation for providing professional reliable temporary secretaries.

We now wish to expand our team of high calibre Shorthand and Audio WP secretaries to join our successful team and in particular demand are: WANG, MULTIMATE, WORDPERFECT, BM D/WA.

For details contact Barbara O'Brien on
071-629 4343
RITZ RECRUITMENT
11/12 HANOVER STREET, LONDON W1R 9HF.
TELEPHONE: 071-629 4343

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
REQUIRED

The Chairman and Managing Director of a rapidly growing International Medical Group based in Harley Street are seeking a mature, well presented PA to organise their day to day business activities.

A high standard of secretarial skills with audio and shorthand are required. A knowledge and interest in computers would be a distinct advantage. The ideal applicant will be enthusiastic, reliable, numerate and enjoy taking on responsibilities.

Please send CV to:
The Administration Office, The Harley Medical Group
10 Harley Street, London W1N 1AA

PERSONAL
SECRETARY FOR
MANAGING DIRECTOR
of small company with worldwide market.
S/H and enthusiasm essential.
Sunbury on Thames.

Apply Box No 1283.

PERSONNEL
ASSISTANT

£13,000

Our Client, a London Co based in Central London is offering an additional secretarial position within their Personnel Department. The post involves a variety of secretarial and administrative duties.

Opus Rec Coms

Maine' - Tucker
Recruitment Consultants

SO THEY SAY IT'S QUIET
FOR TEMPS NOW.....
WELL....

Things are really coming along here now at Maine' - Tucker Temporaries and we urgently need superb Sec/PAs (55+ typing please!) for brilliant companies (especially if you've used Apple Mac, Wang, Unilink or Infact any of the WP's!) for fun and varied long or short term bookings (excellent rates paid of course). If you think you can take the pace and the fun call us immediately for an informative chat.

50 Pall Mall St. James's London SW1Y 5LB Telephone 071-925 0549

WINE TRADE
ADMINISTRATOR / SECRETARY

Small wine supplier Lambeth Palace seeks versatile administrator/secretary for busy office. A knowledge of book-keeping and basic French an asset. Prepared to work hard with friendly team.

RSVP: Jeremy Hunt, Thomas Hunt & Co Ltd, 4 Penn Walk, Lambeth SE11 6AR.

PERSONNEL
ASSISTANT

£13,000

Cavendish Personnel

£21,000 + PACKAGE
BANKING
SUPERSTAR

The man is a powerhouse - tough, demanding and hardworking but then he's got a top job with a major bank in SW1. You will be involved in the preparation of full PA roles. Years are 25-30+, with previous banking experience and 100kpm shorthand. £15,000 + mortgage worth another £8,000 + paid overage etc.

Call 071/439 7001 West End
071/377 2666 City

SECRETARIES PLUS

The Secretarial Consultants

INSURANCE

£16,000+

You will arrange board and management meetings, prepare the papers and provide a full personal secretary/assistant role to the FD at a major insurance group in the City. Shorthand at 100 is essential and there is lots of audio. Benefits are excellent including a £500 lunch allowance and up to £500 travel subsidy.

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SECRETARIES PLUS

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£20,000

COMMERCIAL
SPANISH

Get involved in projects in the high profile role as PA to the MD of a major insurance firm in SW1. The environment is dynamic and your boss is energetic but fair-thinking. Able to work under pressure, you are 25-30+ with both shorthand and audio skills.

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071/377 2666 City

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DIFFERENT

£17,000 + bonus

This is it. The exclusive role you've been waiting for. Based in plush Mayfair offices you will be an integral member of this exciting new development within one of the world's most successful communications companies. Dealing on a global basis with the development of cable TV and other related high-tech innovations you will provide an efficient secretarial support role to team of young and ambitious Executives. Flexibility is the key to an opening that will provide opportunity, challenge and a financially rewarding future. Please call Katie Doul on 071 491 1858.

La Crème

LA CRÈME RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

BI-LINGUAL PA

£18,000 pa

Director & General Manager of property subsidiary of an Anglo-French company based in Victoria seeks a well-presented, organised & quick-witted PA Sec (28-33) who thrives on involvement in strategic planning. International experience & fluency in French & English are vital qualities to cope with the demanding work schedule, as well as FLUENT French & English & excellent Arabic, Shorthand and WP skills.

Not a job for clock-watchers or the faint-hearted!

Call 071 287 2844

Middleton Jeffers

RECRUITMENT LIMITED

CONFERENCE
ASSISTANT

The Financial Times Conference Organisation, one of the world's foremost organisers of business conferences, wishes to appoint a Conference Assistant to handle delegate administration.

Fast, accurate word-processing/computer skills are essential, as is attention to detail and the ability to work under pressure. A good standard of education is required, with previous office experience preferred.

Benefits include 5 weeks holiday per annum, rising to 6 weeks after 2 years service, luncheon vouchers, season ticket scheme, sports facilities, free medical, health insurance and an employee share scheme (both subject to service qualification).

Please apply in writing, enclosing a CV and current salary details to:

Allison Bryant, Conference Administration Manager
Financial Times Conference Organisation
128 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 4JJ
(No agencies)

ADMINISTRATOR/SECRETARY TO
MARKETING DIRECTOR

£15-17k aee + excellent benefits

A dynamic, hi-tech company based in Middlesex requires an Administrator/Secretary (25+) with at least 3 years experience to work for their European Marketing Director.

In a young and busy environment, this varied role includes organising trade shows and seminars, becoming involved in advertising, and acting as an important communications centre for the Marketing Department.

Good typing and a knowledge of computers (especially MS Word) essential, SH and European languages useful.

International Secretaries

174 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9PB

071-491 7100

(Fax: 071 491 2075)

Recruitment Consultants

PA/ADMINISTRATOR

Chartered Surveyor running his own property consultancy in Blackfriars requires someone to deal with all aspects of his business and personal affairs. As well as possessing shorthand and typing skills, you must be able to act on your own initiative, and have a cheerful and flexible approach. Book-keeping experience would be an advantage. Non-smoker preferred. Salary negotiable.

Please write with CV to George C Grover, BSC FRCI, 5 New Bridge Street, London EC4V 6AB
No agencies

PUBLIC
RELATIONS

£18,000+ aee

Young, social and rapidly expanding PR consultancy has several openings for secretaries to work on their film accounts in areas such as fashion, food and drink. So if you have accurate and fast-typing, an eye for detail, and can work at a hectic pace and still keep calm, make your next

£20,000
COMMERCIAL
SPANISH
INTERVIEW
SUITES
071-481 44

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SOMETHING
DIFFERENT
£17,000 + bonus

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CONFERENCE
ASSISTANT

CONFERENCE
ASSISTANT

PROGRAMME
SECRETARY
TELEVISION

GROSVENOR
SECRETARY
PERSONAL ASSISTANT

NOW TO RECRUIT
YOU SECRETARY

Job is life

PA MARKETING EXECUTIVE
£12,000

DIRECTOR'S PA/OFFICE MANAGER
£16,000

EXECUTIVE SEARCH
£16,000 + PERKS

SUSAN DOUGHTY RECRUITMENT
Site 314, Bedford Chambers, North Plaza, Covent Garden, London WC2

EXECUTIVE STRESS
£14,000

MARKETING SECRETARY
£12,500 + PERKS

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Site 314, Bedford Chambers, North Plaza, Covent Garden, London WC2

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£12,000 + PERKS

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Site 314, Bedford Chambers, North Plaza, Covent Garden, London WC2

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EXECUTIVE RECEPTIONIST
PACKAGE £14,000

MONTE CARLO OR BUST!
£14,000

INDUSTRIOUS AND WELL REWARDED
£15,000

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HOLBORN 071-430 2291

OXFORD CIRCUS 071-255 3140

TV TREAT
£12,000

TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD 071-734 5675

MARKETING SALES
£13,000

KNIGHTSBRIDGE 071-255 1777

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Don't let techno-fear stop your return to work.

Should the very thought of going back to work strike terror into your heart, rest assured, Brook Street understands. Come into your local branch and we'll introduce you to 'Audition'. An unique skill evaluation and training programme, designed to help you cut your teeth on new technology. We can also advise you on how to cut a dash at interviews. And we know which employers have the facilities to help working parents. Doesn't that make you feel better already?

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Basingstoke (0265) 47242 Capital 071-523 3818.
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SECRETARY TO HEAD OF ADMIN
£12 - 15K + BENEFITS

Make the most of your secretarial experience and develop your career in personnel and administration. Working with the Head of Administration in this City bank, you will be using your interpersonal skills to deal with a variety of staff issues including salaries, company cars and health insurance. A sound secretarial background (min 2 years) and some knowledge of personnel procedures is essential along with good organisational ability and an enthusiastic approach. Call us now to find out more about this newly created and challenging position.

Senior Secretaries
071-499 0092
(Fax 071-7278)
Recruitment Consultants

TEMPORARY PA/RECEPTIONIST
£14K

This dental practice in Harley Street needs a presentable, articulate secretary with an excellent telephone manner and intermediate secretarial skills - typing (max 55 wpm) and previous experience of wordprocessing. Outstanding interpersonal skills are vital. Age 25-35. Contract hours 10am-4pm. Interested? Contact Diane or Geraldine at 31 and C on 071-240 5003 for immediate interview. (Rec. Con)

WORD PROCESSING TYPING SKILLS SHORTHAND
Short Courses available
Amber Business Training Tel 071-499 5497

RECRUITMENT - CITY
£14,600 + BENEFITS

Top international firm are looking for a confident individual with excellent secretarial and administration skills. High level of involvement for a good communicator at senior level. Shorthand preferred. 'A' levels or graduate.

SALES CO-ORDINATOR
TO £13,000 - NW9

Use your excellent administration skills to ensure the smooth running of this fast growing sales department. Supervisory experience would be advantageous as the prospects are excellent. Outgoing personality is essential coupled with good typing of 50wpm. Age 25+ suit O + A levels.

SECRETARIAL
APPOINTMENTS
7 PRINCES STREET LONDON W1
7 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

LONDON EAST ANGLIAN GROUP FOR GCSE

Personal Assistants, Graded Assessment Team

This busy team requires competent and versatile people with good WP skills, preferably Word Perfect, to undertake administrative duties and word processing. They must be adaptable, able to work under pressure and have a good telephone manner.

Salary will be on the scale of £11,500 to £13,940. For further information and an application form please ring 071-435 5234 or write to the Chief Executive, LEAG, Stewart House 23 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5DN.

SW1 £18,000

True PA work on one-to-one basis. Duties include: Typing, shorthand, filing, telephone, general office work, etc. Good communication skills required. Must be self-motivated and able to work well under pressure.

W.1. £15,000

Flexible and organised. Duties include: Typing, shorthand, filing, telephone, general office work, etc. Good communication skills required. Must be self-motivated and able to work well under pressure.

071-235 6353 (Rec. Con)

INCENTIVE TRAVEL COMPANY

Busy and successful incentive travel company requires fun and hardworking secretary for Outgoing Manager of the Outgoing Group Department. Full secretarial support required good typing and shorthand skills, wp and audio knowledge an advantage. Languages useful but not essential. Early 20's. Salary A.A.E.

Please apply in writing with C.V. to:

INTERNATIONAL VACATIONERS
1 Sherwood Street, Piccadilly Circus, London W1V 7RA
A Member of the WPT Group
(No agencies)

PA/SENIOR SECRETARY

The Chairman of this highly successful graphics group is seeking a high calibre secretary experienced at director level. Initiative, self-motivation and discretion are all essential for this challenging post. The ideal candidate will naturally possess good audio and WP skills, with S/H an advantage. The preferred age range is 28 to 36. This most diverse and interesting role is offered with a starting salary of £17,500, five week holiday and private health insurance. Please write with your CV to:

Rapida Group PLC
136-148 Tooley Street
London SE1 2TU

COLLEGE LEAVERS
£11,000 + benefits

Looking for something different to the traditional secretarial job? Want to combine your secretarial and administrative skills - be part of a team?

If you are lively, have lots of enthusiasm, initiative and commitment, Shell International on London's South Bank has opportunities for you in our International Trading, Supply Marketing, Chemicals and other co-ordinations. These jobs are varied in content and with new technology offer plenty of scope for advancement.

You must have sound word processing skills (50 wpm), shorthand, although useful, is not essential. You need at least four GCSE's, grade C (or equivalent) including Maths and English Language. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend for skills assessment and interview.

Company benefits include:

- 5 weeks annual holiday
- free lunches
- interest-free season ticket loan
- extensive on-site health facilities - dental, physiotherapy, fitness unit etc.
- membership of one of the finest sports and leisure centres in Europe.

We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from minority groups.

For an application form please telephone 0580 754111. Our lines are personally answered 7 days a week between 8am and 11pm.

Application forms should be returned by 21st September.

Maine - Tucker Recruitment Consultants

COLLEGE LEAVERS Publishing & Real Prospects
£9,000 - 10,500

(Plus Package of over 5 weeks' Holidays, Discounts on Books, BUPA, STL, Subsidised Meals and Gym)

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT / SECRETARY

If it's a Career in Publishing you are considering, look no further and take the glowing chance to join one of the best. Producing bright, beautiful books is a professional's job and that's why you need to begin as a Secretary to learn the ropes from the bottom up. From the start, your course is set to become a Production Assistant in about 18 months time. If you have 80+ shorthand, 50 typing, a cheerful chaser of goals, prospects await you here.

ASSISTANT/ SECRETARY

If you have a working knowledge of Education, a special interest in it, then why not use your degree (or similar experience) as a lever to ultimately get into the Editorial side of Publishing with a world-class player in this field. You will initially be organising Conferences, Travel & Entertainment but look out because with your 50 typing you will soon be moving up.

48 Pall Mall St. James's London SW1Y 5LB Telephone 071-925 0445

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Foreign buyers lift office sales

Central London office sales doubled in the past quarter, says Rodney Hobson

Overses buyers accounted for about two thirds of the £1.025 billion spent on buying offices in central London in the second quarter of 1990, says the Richard Ellis research consultancy in its *London Market Bulletin*.

Thanks to foreign interest, total purchases were double the depressed level of the first quarter and almost reached last year's average quarterly value of £1.04 billion.

Overseas investors are continuing to buy larger, more expensive properties. There were only 49 deals in the second quarter, but six of these accounted for half the total capital.

The largest transaction, and the only one valued at more than £100 million, was the purchase of Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, for a reported £250 million-plus. The price put on the building deterred many UK institutions. Richard Ellis says the transaction is a further indication of the continuing demand for landmark buildings.

Scandinavian investors accounted for more than 30 per



Music to an agent's ears: Lansdowne House, in Berkeley Square, has been sold for a reported £250 million-plus

cent of all overseas investment, and they were active in the City, Holborn and West End markets. This contrasts with Japanese purchasers who, while continuing to invest in prime City offices, accounted for only 16 per cent of overseas buyers in the second quarter. European institutions were the third most active purchasing group, accounting for 13 per cent of overseas transactions.

During the same period, UK institutions and property companies have continued to sell, with the institutions disposing of £415 million of real estate. Restricted by the

economic climate, UK property companies bought less than Scandinavian investors, while the UK institutions continue to wait for forced sellers to emerge in large numbers. As a consequence, the market has become orientated towards high-value investments.

These figures show that overseas investors are still looking at central London as a market of opportunity, says Iain Reid, head of Richard Ellis.

Their long-term outlook and desire to increase holdings of the best buildings has enabled prime

yields to remain stable. They are also aware of the advantages of buying non-prime buildings where yields have risen significantly."

Summarising specific areas, Richard Ellis reports:

- **Central London:** There are more buildings for sale but most of them are older structures. Developers are deferring schemes. Demand is concentrated on units of less than 10,000 sq ft. The amount of space taken up in the second quarter was only 1.8 million sq ft, almost 1 million sq ft down on the first quarter.
- **City:** Buying is slower and larger deals are taking longer to sign. The continuing mismatch between supply and demand continues to push rentals down.
- **Holborn:** Development space is more readily available so occupiers have had an increased choice of accommodation. However, take-up levels remained low.
- **West End:** The amount of second-hand buildings for sale continues to increase, pushing up the vacancy rates, but investment is subdued compared with the boom conditions of the past two years. However, deals are taking place where the stock is priced realistically.

A design strategy for the centre of Birmingham has been accepted by the city council's planning committee. Birmingham claims to be the first British city to commission such a study. *Rodney Hobson writes.*

The consultant, Tibbalds Colbourne Karski Williams, argues that neither buildings nor roads should be allowed to create barriers to views or to pedestrian movement. It says it is important to make it easier for pedestrians to find their way around without resorting to extensive signposting, however neatly designed.

"The strategy recommends

Rebirth of a city centre

that different quarters of the city should have distinctive characters," the report says. "The outside of each building should be designed to help people to recognise what the building is for, what goes on inside and how to enter it. New buildings must not be bland, like the graph paper

designs of the Fifties and Sixties, but richer, more colourful and more attractive to look at, particularly at street level."

The report recommends that buildings should be arranged to emphasise, rather than hide, the city's hilliness.

Developments should not be on too large a scale. Large sites should be broken into smaller, human scale developments. As vacant sites are brought into use, new buildings should create proper street frontages, while public spaces and landscape should be intended, rather than treated as left-over bits which are of little use to the developer.

IN THE MARKET

Investor sentiment in some areas, shop yields rose by 0.2 per cent between May and August to stand at 10.25, while office yields rose by 0.3 per cent to reach a record high.

The industrial yield of 10.4 per cent is 0.2 per cent points away from its peak in 1986.

● **Estée Lauder,** the international cosmetics group, has acquired one of Mayfair's premier office developments at 73 Grosvenor Street. The Grosvenor Estate has agreed a five-year exclusive rent of £2345,000, claimed to be a record rent for a prime Mayfair office and approaching 270 per sq ft.

● The first phase of the £6.5 million refurbishment of the 100-year-old listed Market Hall in Carlisle is open for trading. More than 100 purpose-built, shop-fit market stalls for traders represent the initial phase of the development by the Farnham-based property

company, Arundell House, in partnership with Carlisle City Council. The 70,000 sq ft hall, in the retailing heart of the city, will eventually offer a mixture of traditional market trading for 64 stallholders, plus 44 specialist shops totalling 56,000 sq ft. Refurbishment will be completed in Spring 1991.

● The Commission for the New Towns has exchanged contracts for the sale – subject to planning permission – of Usworth Hall, Washington, Tyne and Wear, for an undisclosed figure. The purchaser is Farr, a large civil engineering and building group. It plans to convert the Georgian hall and 30 acres of parkland into a four-star hotel and leisure complex, plus housing.

● **Trafalgar House** Brooklands has sold a three-acre site at its development in Weybridge, Surrey, to Mitsui Machinery Sales (UK), which will build a headquarters and parts warehouse.

RODNEY HOBSON

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YACHTING

Scottish challenge thrown a lifeline as cup fleet thins

By BARRY PICKTHALL

AS THE deadline passed yesterday for prospective challengers for the 1992 America's Cup to post a \$150,000 performance bond, a Scottish businessman stepped in to save the Royal Findhorn YC and maintain a second British challenge alongside Peter de Savary's Port Pendennis YC.

Dr Robert Perryman, spokesman for the Scottish challenge, confirmed yesterday that Patrick White, a former nightclub owner, from Aberdeen, had agreed to support the syndicate. Unfortunately, he forgot to sign the banker's draft before going on honeymoon, but after promising that the cheque will be in the post by Saturday, Perryman and his crew are confident that the challengers' committee will allow them extra grace.

"We are not a frivolous challenge and Stan Reid, the administrator, has faced back saying we are not alone in asking for extra time," Perryman said. "He has advised us to ensure that the money is sent before the executive committee meet to finalise the challengers on September 16."

Another team known to have asked for extra time is

the Soviets. If their entry is also accepted, it will lift the number of challengers to 12, 11 short of the original line-up.

Among those to have fallen by the wayside are Britain's Rose challenge, led by John Beardsley and Geoff Pannell, and the Isis YC syndicate, headed by John Prentice and Bruce Owen. Both groups blame a lack of interest from large sponsors and the high cost of developing and building the new breed of 70ft light-displacement yachts.

The lack of important backing has also forced de Savary to change his plans for a challenge consisting of several boats, to one by a single yacht.

"It was never realistic to believe that sponsors would get behind unknown groups and I still expect we will be the only British challenger in San Diego," de Savary said yesterday. "I am very confident that we can now raise the £4 million we still need from one major sponsor."

He does not plan to build his yacht until the last moment, however. "We will continue spying on other syndicates and not start until we know they have exhausted

GOLF

Faldo faces a month's rest

By MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NICK Faldo could be compelled to quit tournament golf for at least one month following the recurrence of the wrist injury which has troubled him throughout this summer.

Faldo will take a decision tomorrow as to whether he can tee up in the Panasonic European Open at Sunningdale. "If I cannot, and the wrist fails to respond to treatment, then I could be out of golf for one month," Faldo said.

It means that Faldo, the Masters and British Open champion, could miss the Suntry World Match Play Championship at Wentworth from September 20 to 23, as well as the Lancome Trophy in Paris next week. He may also miss the Dunhill Cup at St Andrews next month.

Faldo withdrew from the General Accident Champions Challenge skins match at

Sunningdale yesterday. He has not played since the US PGA Championship finished on August 12, after which he withdrew from both The International in Denver and the World Series of Golf at Akron, Ohio.

Faldo said: "My wrist is still painful. I gave it a complete week's rest after coming back from America. Then I had some light practice sessions which included hitting only 30 golf balls, as holders of the 1990 major championships are like to have seven days off between the second round along with Greg Norman, the leading money-winner on the US Tour. Faldo has not officially confirmed his intention to compete, although he has been informed that at the moment he will not have seeded status.

responds then I might have no option but to pack in playing for the month."

Faldo came close to having cortisone treatment earlier in the year, but Ankers recommended that he did not. Instead, he has set Faldo a strict exercise programme.

If Faldo is forced to withdraw from the Suntry, it could provide the opportunity for the sponsors to see Seve Ballesteros. Hale Irwin (US Open), Wayne Grady (US PGA Champion) and Faldo, as holders of the 1990 major championships, are likely to have seven days off between the second round along with Greg Norman, the leading money-winner on the US Tour. Faldo has not officially confirmed his intention to compete, although he has been informed that at the moment he will not have seeded status.

"I played Sunningdale last Sunday but I was forced to pull out after five holes as it was so uncomfortable. I'm going to need more treatment from Paul Ankers, who has been supervising the problem all year. But I don't want to rush it. It needs daily treatment and unless it

works then I might have no option but to pack in playing for the month."

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We all knew the questions about McLean. Could he take a fast first lap? Did he have the mental strength to last the course in a leading

championship? Could he keep his concentration? Devastating in a race won in 1 min 46sec, could he cope with something quicker?

We had the questions, Boyle and McLean had the answers. The coach identified the faults in the previous failures and worked on them with the athlete. Together, they faced up to them. In Split, we saw the new McLean, who took a major 800 metres by the scruff of the neck and convinced us of his bravery and dedication as well as his ability.

With Murray, Boyle followed the same processes. What were the requirements of the event? What were the strengths and weaknesses of the athlete? Murray had stamina and mental toughness but lacked a change of pace. He put her through speed drills; he got her thinking like a short-distance runner.

That may sound strange but all athletes are inclined to think and work in boxes, to stay within their own particular disciplines, because to do otherwise is to risk, and the sport has enough risk and danger, anyway.

A coach cannot alter what you are born with. He, or she, cannot amend dramatically your bio-mechanics. He cannot put in fast-twitch fibres which are not there. But he can help you turn weaknesses into strengths or, at least, help mask them with tactics or styles.

Out of many great UK performances, Murray's was one of the

two that I would have to select as the most outstanding. I will come to the second one in a moment.

Mike Whittingham also had two outstanding changes in the Split sun — Roger Black and Kris Akabusi. These two have benefited from some great coaching in the past from Mike Smith. He watched over their early development and first maturity.

Whittingham's further achievement with them is outstanding. To take Black first, the coach's task was one of rehabilitation. Neither coach nor athlete was content simply to get back on the track, to make more mistakes.

They wanted to secure an effective future which took account of the weakness shown up by the injury. The answer was to remodel Black's running style, to help him to accommodate the plate in his foot. I believe the change is as significant and triumphant as Leadbetter's work with Faldo's golf swing.

The coaching task with Akabusi was to turn him into a technical evener. That is the difference between the straight 400 metres and 400 metres hurdles. Anyone who doubts the challenge involved in this conversion need only ponder the age of the Hemery record which Akabusi broke in winning the gold medal last week.

My third coach in this brief roll-of honour is Frank Dick. Coaches often have to be decisive and positive, which means brave. It is

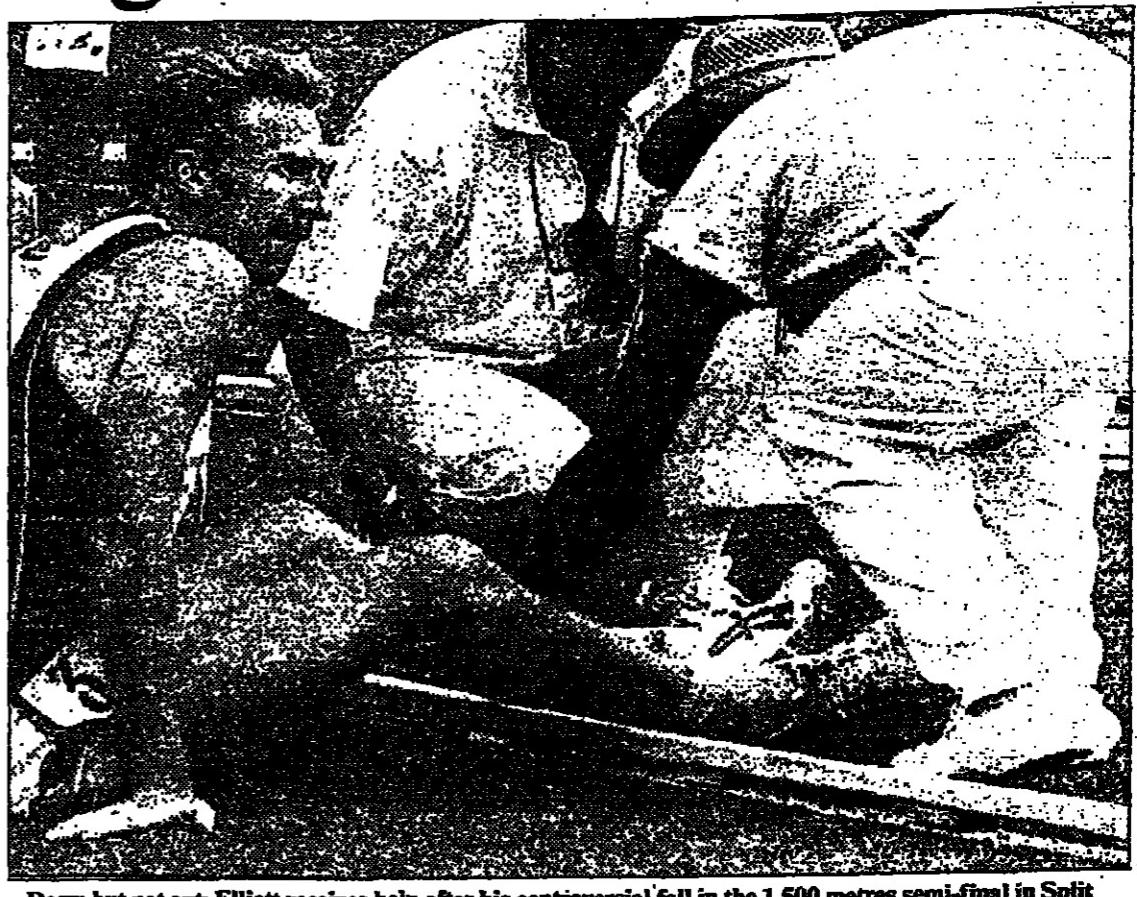
Dick who must take most of the credit for the masterstroke of pitching John Regis into the 400 metres relay. He turned a race into a procession, recording 43.9sec — faster than any other Briton, including Black, has achieved in recent memory. This was my second great British run of the week.

I have had the pleasure of watching Regis train at Haringey under his own coach, John Isaacs — the last in my list. Like all leading coaches, Isaacs has an enquiring mind. He is a sprint man but, last year, he talked with my father, Peter, about stamina development. He encouraged Regis to do 100-metre repeats, usually the province of the distance athlete. Distance work for sprinters is usually a two-lap jog as a warm-up.

Much as I admire Black, I have to say that, last week, Regis looked to me like the first Briton I have seen capable of dominating the Americans at the exhausting 400 metres event.

That was the week, that was, when our coaches and athletes got rewards for their hard preparation. Looking ahead to the championships, I spoke of the tingle in the air. It stayed all week.

Four years before, Stuttgart had been a wonderful achievement. In Split, the team, the management and coaches took British athletics another exciting and healthy leap forward. We must now build on this again as we did four years ago.



Down but not out: Elliott receives help after his controversial fall in the 1,500 metres semi-final in Split

Sebastian Coe sees bright future for British athletics and its unsung coaches

Elliott judgment could backfire

THAT was a week, that was. The European championships came to Split in Yugoslavia and, whatever their future destinations, they will never be quite the same again. That was a week, that was, when drama off stage followed drama on stage and vice-versa.

It was a week of high athletic achievement, albeit without the constant fall of records. It was a week when the impact of random drug testing appeared to be significant, although we may never know how large or small the real effect was.

It was a week which may have changed the face of athletics more than any other in our memories. The East Germans have gone and we must wish them well. Substantial as their achievements have been, no one will regret this small by-product of the political change sweeping through Europe. The Soviets were not the force of old. Eastern Europe generally has lost much of its power and confidence in the track and field arena.

These are potentially big changes but they may be overshadowed in the talking points of track and field history by the Elliott decision. From a British point of view, we were all glad to see Peter reinstated in the 1,500 metres final after his "fall" in the heat on Thursday. I must commend his behaviour throughout. But for the future of the sport, this was a bad judgment.

The appeals committee said in its Friday statement that it was not "a historic decision". What nonsense. It set a precedent, and I fear for the fools and their advisers who will rush in to take advantage. Any such precedent is "historic". This decision opened up awful prospects of professional foul and cynical appeals; of races being settled, more and more, off rather than on the track.

For British sport, and not just British athletics, it was one of the finest weeks. Almost all our hopes were fulfilled. UK power, pride and passion were in full flow. One theme and message kept recurring in my own comments for European television — this was a week of triumph for British coaches and coaching.

Let me talk about four coaching names that should be observed in this wind of change. Tommy Boyle, Mike Whittingham, Frank Dick and John Isaacs are not well known around the country, and their appearance at Heathrow does not get the camera bulbs flashing. But, last week, much of their practice and planning came to glorious fruition for British coaches and coaching.

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Positive Attitude leniently treated in York handicap

By MANDARIN

MICHAEL Bell, who landed a valuable sponsored handicap at Chester's televised meeting on Saturday with Corrina, can repeat the feat at York today when Positive Attitude is mapped to regain last season's excellent form in the Capolini Wines Handicap.

Positive Attitude contributed three victories to the young Newmarket trainer's first-season tally of 16 last year, but has yet to make her mark this term. Nonetheless, Bell is already in sight of beating his 1989 performance with 15 winners to date.

Although it is more than a year since Positive Attitude last won, there were clear signs at Ripon nine days ago that her turn is not far away. Despite Willie Ryan putting up overweight and not being able to obtain a clear run, Positive Attitude ran well at the death to finish a close third behind Villeroi and Langtry Lady in a competitive 16-runner handicap.

Last season, Positive Attitude progressed to land three good handicaps at Sandown, Newbury and Haydock, winning the last with an official handicap rating of 71. Off a



Bell can capture another valuable televised prize

mark of 68 today, Positive Attitude is undoubtedly well treated on her best form.

Further confidence can be gained from the booking of Richard Quinn, who has not teamed up with Positive Attitude in any of her seven outings since the combination was successful in a rich sponsored handicap at Newbury 13 months ago.

Ned's Aura, a game course and distance winner at the Ebor meeting, and L'Uomo Classics, runner-up to the remarkable Timeless Times.

Galtman, at Wolverhampton last week, are the pair I fear most but Positive Attitude has a chance second to none.

Bertie Wooster, another handicap winner at last month's big York meeting, is fancied to take the Lawrence Bentley Handicap for the second year in succession.

Michael Roberts, in the saddle 12 months ago and again last month when he rode a peach of a race to catch Polar Bird at the Hellenic, the subsequent Ribblesdale Stakes and Yorkshire Oaks winner.

She disappointed later that month over 1½ miles at Doncaster and has not run since but this well-bred filly, by Nijinsky out of Conessa, deserves the chance to stone.

Far From Home has the best credentials in the Wachenfield Wines Maiden Stakes and, with Frankie Detori booked to ride, can be safely bet on to win.

Fulke Johnson Houghton's Habitat filly was an excellent fifth, beaten only two lengths, behind Able Player in a competitive 14-ranner handicap over nine furlongs here in July. She will appreciate both the drop in class and slightly shorter trip she encounters here.

Rock Face seeks her fourth success in as many weeks in the Baileys Cash & Carry Handicap and is hard to oppose. Penalised only 3lb for a seven-length victory over 1½

miles at Brighton last week, Rock Face had previously won over today's trip of 1½ miles at Yarmouth where Monday's Nottingham winner, Henryk, finished a well-beaten fourth.

Valira has an outstanding chance of opening her account in the Baileys Catering Range Maiden Stakes if reproducing the form of her effort over course and distance in May when she was a two-length third to Hellenic, the subsequent Ribblesdale Stakes and Yorkshire Oaks winner.

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Head's filly earns tilt at Cheveley Park

From OUR FRENCH RACING CORRESPONDENT, PARIS

DIVINE Dame ran out a most impressive winner of the group three Prix d'Arenberg at Longchamp yesterday and was immediately lined up for a crack at the Cheveley Park Stakes by her trainer, Criquette Head.

Alec Scott's Bawle made the early running but was swept aside two furlongs out by Divine Dame who cruised through to beat Polenatic and Pat Eddery by two lengths.

Head saddled Ravinella to win this race before her triumph in the 1987 Cheveley Park, a race she also won with Ma Biache (1982). Both fillies went on to win the 1,000 Guineas.

Tony Cruz is standing by to ride Ron's Victory for Alain Palourd in Saturday's Ladbrokes Sprint Cup. Palourd is still hoping Cessi Amusette will be fit to ride the King's Stand Stakes runner-up at Haydock but he is likely to be changed if Andre Fabre to go to Epsom.

Cruz has ridden Ron's Victory in most of his races and was on board when the colt won the Prix du Ris-Orangis at Evry last time out.

Fabre added that he intends to declare his top filly, Whitehaven, for Wednesday's Park Hill Stakes at Doncaster but will not make a final decision on the filly's participation until the beginning of next week.

Racegoers will be interested to see if the colt can improve on his

Head's filly Tigerish Timeless Times equals record with No 16

By MICHAEL SEELY, RACING CORRESPONDENT

STRIDING up the Pontefract hill like a tiger, Timeless Times yesterday equalled the record of 16 wins in a season by a British-trained two-year-old, held jointly by The Bard and Providence, with a narrow victory in the Timeform Handicap on Preventor.

On Saturday, the jockey of the moment is looking forward to riding Dead Certain for David Elsworth against Dayjur and Royal Academy in the Ladbrokes Sprint Cup at Haydock. Dayjur's going to take a lot of beating, but the six furlongs should help us," Murphy said.

Both Ladbrokes and Coral yesterday reported heavy bookmaking for Dead Certain. Ladbrokes, having laid the filly to odds from 5-1 to 4-1,

Corals, who offered 6-1 in the morning, trimmed her price to 9-2. Dayjur is now quoted at 6-4 on with both firms and Royal Academy at 5-1. Chris Hill, David Elsworth's secretary, said: "She's really come to her best, and David is very sweet on her chances."

The record holders

PROVIDE

(b) Godswalk - Nadiva

TIMELESS TIMES

(ch) Timeless Moment - Lovely Hobo

Two-Year-Old Record

Mar 22: Doncaster (2,335) 51 1st
Mar 26: Cottenham Bridge (3,633) 51 1st
Apr 1: Lingfield Park (1,629) 50 2nd
Apr 14: York (2,200) 51 1st
Apr 28: Newbury (2,270) 51 1st
May 2: Cottenham Bridge (2,250) 61 2nd
May 24: Cottenham Bridge (2,268) 61 1st
Jun 7: York (2,261) 50 1st
Jun 12: Epsom (2,251) 51 1st
Jun 19: Sandown (2,257) 51 1st
Jun 26: Cottenham Bridge (2,273) 61 1st
Jul 3: Newbury (2,280) 51 1st
Jul 10: Sandown (2,284) 61 1st
Jul 17: York (2,294) 51 1st
Jul 24: Newbury (2,294) 51 2nd
Aug 22: Newbury (1,744) 51 1st
Aug 27: Kempton (1,765) 61 1st
Oct 26: Doncaster (2,252) 59 1st
Nov 4: Ffosfor (2,142) 50 1st

The filly won 16 races in its juvenile season in 1985 including two walkovers. The following year he finished second in the Derby at Ormonde.

Cacoethes to take in Ascot on way to second Arc shot

By RICHARD EVANS

CACOETHES, runner-up to Nashwan in last year's King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes, is set to run in the Cumberland Lodge Stakes at Ascot on Friday after cruising into the lead in a five-furlong race at Newbury.

Plane for Guy Harwood's four-year-old, emerged at Brightling on a day when the standard of racing at the picturesque seaside course could hardly have been in starker contrast to the grand offerings which will be on display at Longchamp in eight weeks' time.

Twelve months ago Harwood entertained hopes that Raj Wali could develop into one of the stable stars and the Miswaki colt was quickly fancied for the 2,000 Guineas. But he failed to live up to expectations and had not made the winning enclosure this season until yesterday.

Dropped in class after running in a mile-and-a-half race at Newbury, Cacoethes has won 11 of his 12 starts in the juvenile season in 1985 including two walkovers. The following year he finished second in the Derby at Ormonde.

That was just what he wanted and it will do him the world of good. He didn't do much once he hit the front but that is the sort of beast he is," said Geoff Lawson, brother-in-law and assistant trainer to Harwood.

"We always thought he would be a really good horse and sure to get a mile and a quarter. We tried him over that trip but it was not right and he had taken time to come back."

The victory of Raj Wali, who may now be aimed at a group three race in Germany, sparked a treble for Cochrane, completed by the Mick Ryan-trained

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The tried and trusted are certain to feature prominently in the England cricket party that will tour Australia this winter

Selectors face a hard task filling six places

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

TEN names will be written down with barely a moment's hesitation when the England committee meets today to select the party for this winter's tour of Australia. The other six, however, may not be agreed without prolonged debate.

Matters of policy, as much as personalities, could divide the selectors. Micky Stewart, the team manager, is a great believer in retaining familiar faces, those who are accustomed to England's methods even if not especially proficient within them. He is likely, for instance, to favour the inclusion of DeFreitas, Alec Stewart and perhaps even Larkins and Capel, who were all in the Caribbean last winter.

The alternative argument, of course, is that such players have had their chances and largely failed to take them and that the time is right for fresh blood, possibly exemplified by Hugh Morris, Martin Bicknell, Philip Tufnell and Steve Rhodes.

All four have had outstanding

seasons and would be in my party of 16 but, the predictions of Stewart and Graham Gooch being as they are, it would not surprise me if none of them features on the list which Ted Dexter, chairman of the committee, will announce tomorrow.

Dealing first, however, with uncontested issues, it seems clear that nine of the 11 who played the final Test of the summer at the Oval are bound to go. John Morris is a probable, Neil Williams surely no more than an outsider.

To these nine certainties I would add Gladstone Small, whose problems in midsummer were attributable to fatigue rather than simply form or fitness. He is evidently refreshed and, at his best, is capable of turning Test matches. Certainly, his presence would greatly ease the burden on Angus Fraser, who sometimes seems to be the only English bowler who knows the meaning of consistency.

Australian pitches, these days, are not the fast, bouncy surfaces of old. If they have a trait to

encourage the quicker bowlers, it is uneven bounce and occasional sideways movement. Accuracy is a prerequisite, which is a good reason for preferring Bicknell, of Surrey, to the more obvious DeFreitas.

It has widely been assumed that DeFreitas secured his place by taking five wickets in Saturday's NatWest Trophy final. This may prove to be the case; if so, it is very muddled thinking.

DeFreitas has long been acknowledged as an effective bowler in limited-overs cricket and there are it is true, up to 14 one-day internationals on England's schedule. The selectors' duty, however, is to choose a team to win the Ashes and DeFreitas's woeful Test record ought to encourage them to look elsewhere.

Bicknell is aged only 21 but I disregard the claim that he is too young. He has been in the Surrey team for some three years, has a good fitness record and, this season, has taken more wickets than any other eligible seam bowler.

The last seam bowling place will

go to someone who can also bat. Chris Lewis is the man in position and is the likeliest to develop into a top-class Test cricketer; he would be an automatic choice but for his alarming susceptibility to all forms of injury and illness.

Before he is inked in, the selectors will need some fairly firm medical assurances. If they still think they are risking too much, they may revert to Capel, who has also had an interrupted season, or, more imaginatively, they may include Watkinson, of Lancashire, or Rose, of Somerset. Both are superb strikers with the bat and competent seam bowlers; Watkinson has the additional suit of off spin.

Assuming Hemmings's selection, the second spin bowler should be chosen with an eye to the future. Apart from Robert Croft, the highly-promising Welshman, there is scarcely an off spinner in sight but the left-arm variety is more plentiful. From the likely shortlist, I consider Illingworth too negative and Medlycott too profligate, narrowing the field

to Richard Davis, of Kent, and Tufnell, of Middlesex. I would take Tufnell and hope that, by the end of the tour, he has usurped Hemmings in the Test team.

Two batting places are vacant, of which one must be an opener. Going to the West Indies without a spare opening batsman was perceived and proved, to be a mistake and surely cannot be repeated. Larkins has a supporter in Gooch but, last week's double-century apart, he has done nothing to justify selection: Hugh Morris and Mark Benson have both done plenty but with Benson in persistent trouble with a thumb injury, Morris wins my vote.

He is not an elegant player but a tough, durable and effective one who has made runs at all levels since his outstanding school career at Blundell's. He has the advantage of being a left-hander, somewhat in the mould of Australia's Mark Taylor, and after making ten centuries this summer, his omission would mean that county form counts for nothing.

His namesake, John Morris, has yet to shine in an England cap but

he deserves the security of a full tour on which to express himself. Fairbrother and Bailey will again be discussed, as will the gifted young Mark Ramprakash, whose selection would be an intriguing adventure with youth of a sort which England selectors usually shun.

The final place to be decided is the deputy wicketkeeper. Alec Stewart is the favourite, chiefly on the basis of his useful batting, but the fact that Surrey are seeking a new wicketkeeper says something about his suspect glovework. There is enough cricket on this tour for a second, genuine, wicketkeeper to be adequately employed and I narrowly prefer the combative Rhodes, who will also make valuable runs to Warren Hegg, of Lancashire.

Without much confidence that the selectors will concur, I suggest this 16: Gooch, Lamb, Atherton, Gower, Robin Smith, Hugh Morris, John Morris, Russell, Rhodes, Hemmings, Tufnell, Lewis, Fraser, Small, Malcolm, Martin Bicknell.



Hugh Morris: may be selected

Old rivalries are resumed in today's Refuge Assurance Cup semi-finals

Lancashire in hunt for treble

By RICHARD STREETON

DAVID Hughes and his fellow Lancashire titans set their sights on further one-day cricket history today when they meet Middlesex at Old Trafford in the semi-finals of the Refuge Assurance Cup. Their NatWest Bank Trophy win on Saturday, which followed their success in the Benson and Hedges Cup in July, made them the first county to win both trophies in the same season.

Now, Lancashire hope they can complete a remarkable treble by winning a third senior knockout trophy. Derbyshire play Nottinghamshire at Derby in the other semi-final of the 40-overs competition, which is only three years old. It is contested by the four leading finishers in the Refuge Assurance League and brings the winners £6,000.

Lancashire report brisk ticket sales for another meeting with opponents whom last month they beat by five wickets in a high-scoring NatWest Trophy semi-final. Mendis made an undefeated 121 on that occasion to steer Lancashire to a victory which was not completed until the third day because of rain.

Mendis is not expected to play today, when the forecast is again poor. Lancashire seem likely to stick with Fowler and Atherton, the opening pair they have mostly used in this season's 40-overs games, apart from when Atherton has been away at Test matches. Graham Lloyd, one of the most promising young batsmen in the country, will取代 Mendis's place in a Lancashire side that otherwise will probably be unchanged from that which played at Lord's last Saturday.

Gatting, who is anxious to be fully fit on Friday when the championship programme resumes, will almost certainly be a Middlesex absentee. He has been having treatment for a strained hamstring muscle. Middlesex have the consolation of a

team that Haynes, Ramprakash and Roseberry have all scored more heavily than the captain in Sunday cricket this year.

Derbyshire, the Sunday league champions, once again prefer Kuiper, the South African all-rounder, to Bishop, the West Indian fast bowler, as their overseas player for their clash against their Midlands rivals.

Barnett, the captain, with 699 runs, has been Derbyshire's heaviest rungetter in 40-overs cricket this year and Kuiper and Base, each with 29 wickets, have been their main wicket-takers.

Malcolm makes one of his rare appearances this year in cricket in which he will be restricted to a reduced run-up and it will be interesting to see how he fares. The need to use a shortened run-up has been the reason why Nottinghamshire have, on Sundays, not risked Pick, their most successful bowler in the championship.

Nottinghamshire did not want to upset Pick's rhythm so today Gregory Mike, a locally-born all-rounder, keeps his place. Randall, sadly, will be missing because of the groin strain that has bothered him most of the summer. He is not expected to play again this season.

Both semi-finals start at 1.05pm and, if they are carried over, play will resume at 10.35am tomorrow. The final is at Edgbaston on September 16.

DERBYSHIRE (from): K J Barnes (captain), P D Bowler, J E Morris, B Roberts, J G Smith, A J Taylor, G Gooch, G Goldsmith, A E Morris, S J Rose, D E Malcolm, O H Morris, M Jefferies, J James.

MIDDLESEX (from): R T Robinson (captain), B C Broad, M Newell, P Johnson, M Scayle, P D Stephenson, S N French, K P Evans, E H Hemmings, K E Cooper, G W Tufnell.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (from): D P Hughes (captain), G Fowler, M A Atherton, G D Lloyd, N H Bishop, D G Gooch, S J Rose, M Akram, P A J DeFreitas, W K Hogg, J D Austin, P J W Allott, G D Mendis, T D Jones, J D Tait.

DERBYSHIRE (from): M W Gatting (captain), D L Hayes, A Roseberry, M R Ramprakash, J R Brown, P R Dowson, J E Morris, J D Tait, J D Tait, R Tufnell, A R C Fraser, N G Cowdrey, C Pooley, P N Weeks.

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FOOTBALL

Kendall is sticking with a tried and trusted formula

By IAN ROSS

THE credentials of two sides who believe themselves to be capable of sustaining a realistic challenge for football's top honours this season will face a thorough examination tonight when Manchester City host Aston Villa at Maine Road.

City ended last season with a flourish and the encouraging form which has been displayed in their opening two League fixtures has gone some way to pacifying those supporters who feared that Howard Kendall, the manager, was intent on transforming the club into little more than a rest home for former Everton players.

Since succeeding Mel Machin in December, Kendall has bought five players who served under him at Goodison Park, where he enjoyed a period of unqualified success before his surprising decision to resign in 1987 and take up the post of coach at Athletic Bilbao, in Spain.

Despite the obvious disappointment on the terraces, Kendall has never made any apologies for his policy of purchasing tried and trusted footballers and his impish sense of humour will have been touched last Saturday when Adrian Heath scored the only goal in the game against Everton, to secure City's first points of the season.

Butcher is asked for his version

TERRY Butcher, of Rangers, is to be asked by the Scottish Football Association (SFA) to give his version of an alleged head-butting incident during England's World Cup warm-up game in Tunisia.

The English FA has asked the SFA to investigate so they can then decide if further action should be taken.

• Paul Gascoigne, the Tottenham Hotspur midfielder player, may escape further punishment for the booking he received in a pre-season match in Norway.

There has been no communication from the Norwegian authorities, and an English FA spokesman said yesterday: "We certainly won't be chasing them for a report. If we hear nothing from Norway in the near future, the matter will probably be allowed to drop."

• Leeds United will play Sheffield Wednesday at Elland Road, provisionally on November 12, in a testimonial match for Mel Sterland, the club's 11-year service with Wednesday.

Sterland left the Sheffield club for Rangers in an £800,000 move towards the end of his testimonial year. His benefit match was later postponed due to the Hillsborough disaster, and he has since joined Leeds for £600,000.

• Tommy Johnson, the Notts County forward, has pulled out of the England Under-21 squad to play Hungary at Southampton on Tuesday.

County take on Charlton Athletic on the same night and Johnson, aged 19, the club's 20-goal leading scorer last season, had to withdraw.

• Dave Logan, the former Stockport County left back, has signed for Scunthorpe, the team he joined in 1979. The defender, aged 36, has also had spells with Mansfield Town, Northampton Town and Halifax Town.

• Chris Fairclough, the Leeds United central defender, faces a lengthy lay-off. The £100,000 signing from Birmingham City in March 1989 is to have an exploratory operation to establish the extent of knee trouble.

SATURDAY'S ALL-TICKET MATCH: Sheffield United v Manchester City (6pm).

Platini hoping to bring his side in from the wilderness

REYKJAVIK (Reuters) — France meet Iceland for a European championship qualifier today with an unbeaten run in their last ten matches but with the manager, Michel Platini, warning his players not to expect an easy task.

"Everybody knows teams like Iceland and France are easy," Platini said before their opening group one tie. "But if you go there thinking you are better than them, you will lose. You must play with the same commitment as your opponents."

Platini is aware that Iceland's aggressive approach has often seen teams, especially in Reykjavik, where conditions are often cold and windy at this time of year. France managed only goalless draws against Iceland in Reykjavik in 1975 and 1986, and the French clubs, Nantes and Monaco, lost away games in the 1985 European Cup and 1988 UEFA Cup, respectively.

Iceland beat Albania 4-0 at home last May in the only tie played so far in group one, which also includes Spain and Czechoslovakia, and they have been performing well under their new manager, Bo Johansson, of Sweden.

There is no shortage of experience in the Icelandic side. The Tottenham Hotspur sweeper, Gudni Bergman, and the Anderlecht midfield player, Arneur Gudjohnsen, are expected to play key roles.

Although he had an unsuccessful spell in Spain with Espanol and a demoralising seven-month period with tonight's opponents, Kendall is adamant that Heath remains one of England's more accomplished forwards.

"He had an unfortunate time in Spain and the encouraging form which has been displayed in their opening two League fixtures has gone some way to pacifying those supporters who feared that Howard Kendall, the manager, was intent on transforming the club into little more than a rest home for former Everton players.

"I believe that other front players enjoy playing alongside him because he is such a lively footballer. It is very rare that a striker feels isolated when playing next to him. I think that Niall Quinn will go on to be a better player for being alongside Adrian because this game is all about partnerships," he said.

Kendall has delayed naming his team until shortly before kick-off as both Harper and Reid require fitness tests after sustaining leg injuries on Saturday.

"After opening our season at Tottenham and then having to play at home we could not really have had a more difficult third game than this one. We shall know a great deal more about our-

elves by 9.30pm tomorrow," Kendall said.

• Norwich City's policy of selling leading players has turned a near £500,000 loss into a profit. The first division club's annual report shows a £71,000 profit on last season, compared to a £447,000 loss the previous year.

Although Norwich spent £500,000 on ground improvements, the sale of Mike Phelan, for £750,000, and Malcolm Allen, for £400,000, helped bring in £1.8 million in transfers. Their financial position, despite an increase in players' wages, is even healthier as the figures do not include the recent sales of Andy Townsend and Andy Linighan, which brought in £2.4 million.

Norwich has since laid out £1 million on two defenders, John Polson and Paul Blades, and the club's ambition to remain a force in the first division is also reflected in the wage bill.

There are 13 players earning more than £50,000 a year, with one of them, either the captain, Ian Butterworth, or Dale Gordon, on nearly £90,000. The previous season only six players were on more than £50,000. Robert Chase, the chairman, said: "If you want to attract the best players, then you have to be prepared to pay them."

Venglos admits he has much to learn

By CHRIS MOORE

JOZEF Venglos takes Aston Villa to Manchester City tonight looking to secure his first win in English football. "I know I am not Graham Taylor [his predecessor at Villa Park], and that I still have much to learn about English football," the former Czechoslovakia World Cup manager said.

"If we beat Manchester City it will be a point better off than after our first three games last season which were all drawn. The main thing is that no team can stop you hard, and as long as we keep maintaining that level of effort, we will get our rewards."

Venglos, who flies back to Czechoslovakia on Sunday to visit Villa's Uefa Cup opponents, Banik Ostrava, is expected to keep an unchanged side tonight, with Kevin Gage again included in midfield to the exclusion of Ian Olney.

• Eli Ohana, the Israeli international, who has joined Nottingham Forest on a two-week trial, was due to make his debut in last night's reserve team game at Liverpool. "I am certain my style will suit the English game," he said. "I am desperate to impress the manager." Jonathan Warr, the director and course designer, who has

had the challenging task of

recreating a brand new two-star international three-day event.

Etherington-Smith, who originally designed the course at Bramham, said yesterday at revealing his 27-stence course: "My intention from the start has been to create a good two-star competition which the public will enjoy jumping and the public will enjoy watching."

With entries from 11 countries, including Ireland, New Zealand and the United States, the 80-metre causeway will be submerged beneath six inches of water.

The event, which has an unrivalled setting in the rolling parkland to the south of Blenheim Palace, has cost £100,000.

Audi, the sponsors of the former Chatsworth three-day events, are sponsoring the event for three years with the option of extending their contract.

The strong entry, which also includes Mary Thomson, the national champion, and Roddy Powell, a team silver medalist at the 1988 Commonwealth Games, has been created by the members of the Blenheim family, and the organisers hope permanently.

No expense has been spared for the course. When it became evident that the lake to the south of the palace would have to be crossed twice in order to create a cross country course of the appropriate length (3½ miles) Jonathan Warr, the man responsible for the popular Mil-

ton Keynes course, hit on the idea of a causeway.

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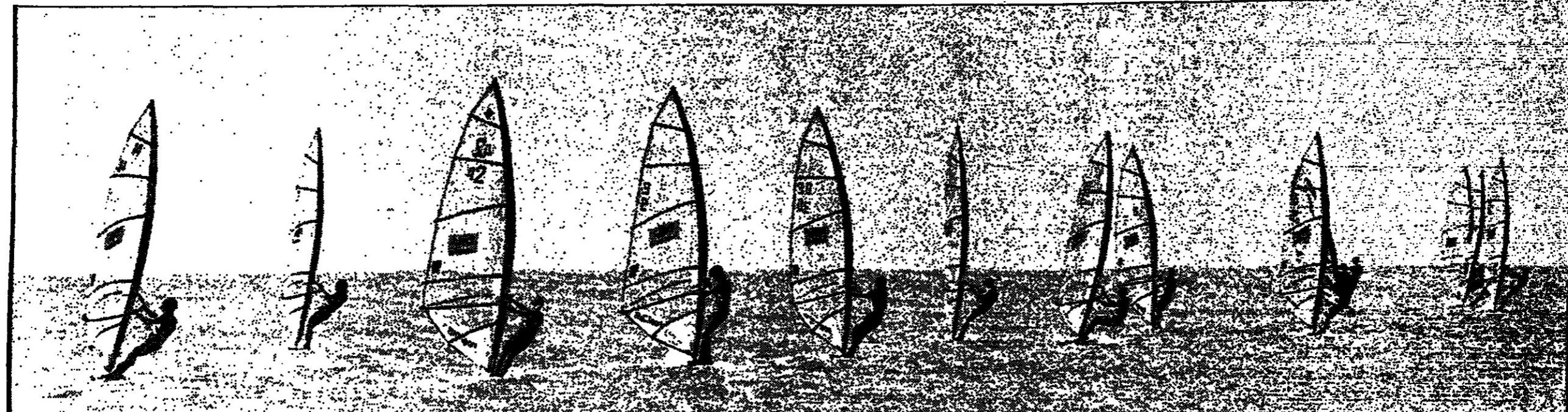
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SPORT

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 5 1990

JULIAN HERBERT

Pre-race manoeuvring before the battle for a world board title



Catching a wave and a breeze: Competitors in the world windsurfing championships dominate the seascape off Hastings as they head to the start of an event yesterday

Dispute over overseas players rocks Oxford

By PETER BILLS

OXFORD University Rugby Club is locked in an internal dispute reminiscent of the 1987 Boat Race mutiny. Once again the controversy concerns the question of who should run the club and once again it involves post-graduate students from overseas. The result is that Oxford may play the entire term, including the match against Cambridge in December, without five leading Blues.

The dispute has developed because of a feeling among some members of the club that the influence of overseas players and a coach was becoming too great. Their attempt to reduce that influence failed, due to the protests of a group that included Australian and American players.

Those players, Brian Smith, an Australia and Ireland international, Troy Coker of Australia, two American internationals, Don James and Gary Hein, and another Australian, Morgan Jones, have all been barred from the club's imminent tour of the Far East. Some Oxford players' membership of Vincents' Club (an exclusive club for university sportsmen) have been cancelled. Coker said: "The system fell stepped upon, and the authorities struck back."

Hein, who played for Oxford in the 1989 University match, said: "It's pretty ironic that some people at Oxford are saying this is another Boat Race rebellion by the Americans in support of the Australians. The fact is, it was the committee who were trying to seize power by changing the constitution. They are the ones who started all this and we just got together to stop them succeeding. They have caused the mess the Oxford rugby club is in."

Smith, the captain last year,



Influence resented: Smith (left) and Alan Jones



had brought in the former England internationals, Peter Wheeler and Clive Woodward, to help with coaching, but just before the University match, called in Alan Jones, the former Australia coach. Jones had been invited to help with coaching in three of the previous four years.

Smith also took some coaching sessions himself last term, something which attracted criticism although Coker said: "Brian was trying to instill a more professional attitude in the club. But that didn't come easily in a club steeped in history and tradition. Ties were stepped upon, and the authorities struck back."

Cambridge won the University match 22-13 at Twickenham last December. Mark Egan, an Irishman, was elected the new captain in January. Under his leadership, Oxford lost nine of their ten matches. Because of a tutorial, Smith arrived late for one of the fixtures, a defeat by Combined London Old Boys on January 24, and was banished by Egan for the rest of the term.

The dispute between Egan

and Smith, a fellow student at St Anne's College, became so heated that both were summoned to a meeting by their college's principal, Dr Clare Palley. She ruled that Egan's decision to banish Smith was too severe and suggested that Smith should be re-instated.

Egan agreed, shaking hands

with Smith but he later changed his mind. Smith has since joined Leicester and will not play for Oxford again.

At the annual meeting of the club in May, the committee sought to change the constitution, to weaken the influence of the captain, who is elected by the club's players. Under present rules, a simple majority is required but the committee demanded that be changed so that a re-vote would be required if there was less than a five per cent majority. If that were still the case after a second vote, the committee would make the decision.

James, an American international prop forward who is a graduate in law from the University of California, said from his home in the United States this week: "The whole thing was totally undemocratic. The committee was trying to rewrite the constitution and take all the power away from the players. A few of us got organised and alerted the college captains. It was obvious we had the numbers."

However, before a vote was possible, the club's acting president, Dr Alan Taylor, adjourned the meeting which, according to James, he was not allowed to do under the constitution.

James said: "People have lost their friends over a lousy election. It snowballed from there and became a big fight."

With a four-day package to the World Cup finals costing a minimum of about £600 per head, it is fair to assume that the £600,000 trip cost the FA around £60,000. The FA's profit from the World Cup has yet to be published, but Glenn Kirton, the FA's external affairs officer, said: "We ended up with around £250,000 from Mexico in 1986."

Kirton anticipates difficulties in persuading the council to redraft the FA constitution, especially if there is a threat to the perks they receive in exchange for their efforts at the grass roots of the game. He said: "I aim to counter that by stressing that the council and its committees would remain in place. But a board of directors who are totally behind me, I don't feel these players have been supportive of me at all."

"It would not be an im-

mense loss if they didn't play for us again. We will get by without them. I would not be disappointed."

Kelly aims to set up new board

By LOUISE TAYLOR

GRAHAM Kelly, the chief executive of the Football Association, is campaigning to shift its power base from the 92-strong FA Council to a board of directors of ten people.

Kelly said yesterday: "To have major decisions made by an excess of 90 people, with maybe 90 different views, is not the best way forward. A smaller ten-person board would be better able to co-ordinate the wide-reaching and often very detailed affairs of the FA."

"It would be better able to put over the FA point and would earn more respect from the government, commerce and television. We have to confront major issues such as ground safety and improvements, financial, taxation, and television rights."

The FA Council is made up largely of representatives from the county associations, who have the interests of the amateur game at heart. Kelly envisages the ten directors being people involved solely with the professional game. He said: "We would have the chairman, the president of the FA, the president of the Football League and seven others elected by the council."

Hein and James were similarly minded, but angry that they had been castigated for their roles in the affair. Hein said: "I very much resent the fact that I was caught up in this. And I am really disappointed with the way Mark Egan has handled my case. I have had a slap in the face which has been entirely unjustified."

Reg Clark, a Blair in 1978-9 and a co-opted member of the present committee takes a different view. He said: "I have been struck by the similarities with the Boat Race story. It is not so much taking over the club but a hard core of people exerting their authority in the club and not taking into account the long-standing traditions. It has been quite an unpleasant business and it has been done behind closed doors."

The bitterness has risen from the last two years' captaincy election campaigns when there was a great deal of dishonesty on both sides."

"Another problem with the council is the costs of all the perks and privileges of the members. All 92 councillors and their wives were invited to fly out to the World Cup in Italy, staying in five-star hotels, to watch England's semi-final and the third-place play-off match, and around 50 went with their partners. The League is entitled to 25 per cent of the FA's profits from Italia '90, but the money spent on the trip has eroded that money to next to nothing."

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the World Cup finals costing a minimum of about £600 per head, it is fair to assume that the £600,000 trip cost the FA around £60,000. The FA's profit from the World Cup has yet to be published, but Glenn Kirton, the FA's external affairs officer, said: "We ended up with around £250,000 from Mexico in 1986."

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mense loss if they didn't play for us again. We will get by without them. I would not be disappointed."

Mood of optimism over South Africa's return

From DAVID MILLER IN STOCKHOLM

[The anti-apartheid movement] just because the finishing line is in sight: We must maintain our position until the pillars of apartheid are brought down."

This view was echoed by Kevan Gosper, an Australian member of the IOC's executive board. He considers that although selective readmission of some South African sports bodies by the relevant international federations would provide an incentive to others, it carries the danger of letting in South African bodies that have not yet done enough towards true integration.

"You can still lose 400 metres race in the last 20 metres," Gosper said. "The anti-apartheid movement has to keep going until the point at which the IOC can readmit South African sport wholesale. When that happens, it will be to the substantial benefit of the whole of Africa, because Africans will have a sense of real achievement and self-esteem, and it will help draw them more into the international community."

Georgé, saying that he hoped this would be the last anti-apartheid conference before apartheid was finally destroyed, insisted that it would be dangerous to relax and that the sporting boycott should be accelerated, rather than reduced, in a push towards conclusion. "Not all the changes taking place are due to a change of heart," he said, "but it is encouraging that so many whites have a willingness to merge."

There are advanced talks for union of the separate rugby and football bodies. George said, and discussions are under way for reformation of the United Nations general assembly, who said pointedly: "We must not give up

the mood of expectation sweeping through black Africa was evident in the speech of Jean-Claude Ganga, who represents the Congo on the International Olympic Committee and is a radical member of the IOC's anti-apartheid commission. "I dream of organising an African Games in Johannesburg," Ganga said, "as a celebration of African youth." The expression of such a sentiment is equivalent to the Reverend Paisley wishing to give Communion in Dublin.

Yet every African present here — by no means all of them representative of regimes of sweetness and light — is of the same view as Ambassador Joseph Garba, president of the United Nations general assembly, who said pointedly: "We must not give up

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Dick, the director of coaching who led Britain to a record medal haul in the European Championships in Split last week, said: "He obviously wanted to win, because when

Thompson begins comeback

DALEY Thompson took a step along the comeback trail in a specially arranged four-event competition at Crawley yesterday. The former Olympic and world champion came through the test with no reaction to a knee injury which prevented him defending his European and Commonwealth titles in Tokyo.

Thompson, aged 32, scored 3,008 points after clocking 11.16sec for the 100 metres, 26.04 for the 200 hurdles, recording 6.57 metres in the

long jump and throwing 57.82 metres in the javelin.

He came second to Brian Taylor, the national champion, who scored 3,090, but did enough to convince Frank Dick that he is on course for a return to the big time in next year's world championships in Tokyo.

Dick, the director of coaching who led Britain to a record medal haul in the European Championships in Split last week, said: "He obviously wanted to win, because when

you are used to success you don't like getting your shins bruised."

"But it was Daley's first real test back and he was a bit ring rusty. It was expecting too much for him to be 100 per cent. The good news is that the knee was no problem. All he needs now is more competition. It was an important step back on the road to the big one next year."

Thompson has not completed a decathlon since losing his Olympic crown in Seoul two years ago.

Capriati's lesson in Graf's master class

From ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
NEW YORK

LIKE most American children, Jennifer Capriati had an appointment in the classroom yesterday. She had hoped to postpone her return to St Andrews School in Boca Raton, but Steffi Graf, who this week celebrates her 160th week as headmistress of the women's tour, handed out the severest of tutorials to the United States Open tennis championships and Capriati, aged 14, was free to resume life as a schoolgirl.

Graf, the defending champion and No. 1 seed, took just 53 minutes on the centre court to beat Capriati 6-1, 6-2, and reach the quarter-finals, allowing her just one glimpse of parity early in the second set when the No. 13 seed missed two points to level at 1 min 48.61sec. Burgess recording

... back to normality," Aus-

tin said.

If Capriati's advisers, father

Stephano and manager John

Evert, are wise, they will listen

to those words. It should be

enough that their charge has

reached No. 13 in the world

in her first year on the tour, and is already the richest schoolgirl in America. Unfortunately, there are countless clauses at the bottom of countless contracts which rule out Capriati's withdrawal. "Do you have any advice for her?" Graf was asked. "There is not much she can do. Try to be yourself and have the right people around you, the family that secures you. Try to have as much fun as you can, but try to get as much away from it as you can," was the reply.

Roughly the same advice came from Tracy Austin. Remember her? She won the US Open in 1979 at the age of 16, and was then forced out of the game with shoulder and back injuries. Her comeback was ended last year when her knee was crushed in a car accident. "Jennifer should get back to school as much as possible. Many players take a tutor out on tour with them, but there is no substitute for getting back among your peers

winning semi-finalists have to play twice inside 24 hours.

That could yet prove to be

the telling factor, in the men's

singles at least. If he manages

to beat the improving David

Wheaton in the second round,

then his name is written on the trophy. Becker won 2-6, 6-2, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 in just over three

hours, but had to scrap and claw his way through the final set.

"Sometimes it is good to have five sets. It's tougher for the mind," the champion said.

Darren Cahill in the fourth round, the defending champion will feel as he did last year, when coming back from match point against Derrick Rosigno in the second round, that his name is written on the trophy. Becker won 2-6, 6-2, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 in just over three hours, but had to scrap and claw his way through the final set.

Andrei Cherkasov reached his second grand slam quarter-final of the year, in beating Christo van Rensburg in straight sets, and Aaron Krickstein beat Amos Mansdorf, also in straight sets. So the men's singles quarter-final line-up is Becker v Krickstein, Agassi v Cahill, Lendl v Sampras, and McEnroe v Wheaton. Back in Florida, Capriati should put her dainty feet up, tune in to CBS, and enjoy being normal again.

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Ngugi surprises once again

From DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, KOBLENZ

JOHN Ngugi, the Olympic 5,000 metres champion, failed by the narrowest of margins last night to run the fastest 10,000 metres in the world this year, but had the consolation of moving into sixth place in the all-time rankings. His time, 27min 19.55sec, was only one second slower than Arturo Barrios of Mexico, ran in Berlin a fortnight ago.

Ngugi, a Kenyan, has shown many times that he is a law unto himself, both by the eccentric way he runs cross-country and his extraordinary attempt to win the Commonwealth 5,000 metres in February, after falling over. On that occasion he went from last to first only to be caught on the line by the Australian, Andrew Lloyd.

Last night, at 5,000 metres, nothing but an ordinary 10,000 metres looked likely. But Ngugi, having been freed of the restriction of his pacemakers, picked up speed after reaching halfway in 13min 51sec, or 27:42 pace.

Had the pacemakers done a

better job, perhaps Barrios's world record of 27min 8.23sec might have been under threat. Volker Welzel, of West Germany, paced the first 2km in 5min 31sec and Ngugi's compatriot, Cheruiyot, took him to 5,000 metres.

Tatyana Ledovskaya was one of eight European champions in action. Ledovskaya ran as she did in Split: a fast first 300m in the 400m hurdles, then it was a case of hoping for the best. Ellen Fiedler, from East Germany, brought Ledovskaya back to within half a second by the finish. Birin won in 1min 47.21sec. Burgess recording

18, from Kenya, and Paul Burgess, 19, from Wigan, renewed their rivalry here, in the B 800m and the result was much the same. The only difference this time is that Burgess, who was second in Gateshead, was fourth, while Birin, the former world junior champion, was first.

For Burgess, the point of travelling all this way was to improve his best time of 1min 47.9sec. The puddles hindered his task, though he will find that being eighth at the bell is no way to make headway at this level. Birin won in 1min 47.21sec. Burgess recording

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